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THE  
GRECIAN  
HISTORY.

From the Original of GREECE, to the  
Death of PHILIP of *Macedon*.

By *TEMPLE STANYAN*, Esq;  
IN TWO VOLUMES.

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L O N D O N:

Printed for J. and R. T O N S O N and  
S. D R A P E R in the *Strand*.

---

M D C C L I.





THE  
GRECIAN  
HISTORY.

By *TEMPLE STANYAN*, Esq;

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VOLUME *the* FIRST.

From the Original of GREECE, to the  
End of the *Peloponnesian* War.

*Containing the Space of about 1684 Years.*

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M D C C L I.





To the Right Honourable

JOHN Lord *Somers*,  
BARON of *Evesham*.

MY LORD,



CANNOT give a  
greater Proof of  
my Zeal for An-  
tiquity, than by  
the Ambition I have of  
putting its chief Heroes un-  
der your Lordship's Protec-  
tion. I am sensible I can

A 3

plead

## DEDICATION.

plead no Right to it, but what is founded upon their Merit; and have nothing to palliate my Presumption to your Lordship; but a Pretence of doing Justice to them. So that I dare insist upon your Lordship's Patronage no otherwise, than as it will be a Reward paid to the Memory of their Virtues, which can never receive its due Lustre, but from Men of the same generous Principles. It was a noble Vigour with which they were animated against the first Disturbers of Mankind;

## DEDICATION.

kind; and it is That makes them naturally have Recourse to those, who have so gloriously exerted themselves in securing the Liberties of *Europe*. How great a Part your Lordship bears in that Work, is allow'd by all but Your Self, who are equally industrious to merit Applause, and to avoid it.

To interest Your Self in Affairs of the last Importance with so much Zeal and Assiduity, and yet to effect them with so much Calmness and Serenity, to do Good without any Prospect,

A 4

## DEDICATION.

spect, but that of the Pleasure arising from the Consequence, and to promote the Service of your Country, even by seeming to decline it, as they are Qualities the best of Patriots have ever affected, so are they in none more conspicuous than in your Lordship.

MY LORD, It is not easy to resist the Temptation of indulging myself upon this Subject; especially where I am secur'd as well from the Imputation, as the Guilt of Flattery. For none can be so hardy as to dispute your  
Lord-

## DEDICATION.

Lordship's Merit, without denying those very Blessings they enjoy, as the Result of it. But in regard to the Uneasiness I should give your Lordship, and indeed to the Injustice I should do You by pursuing so unequal a Task, I am forc'd to leave it as a Happiness reserv'd for those, who shall hereafter be engag'd in the most Ornamental Part of the *English* History.

I would urge one Title more to your Lordship's Acceptance of these Papers, by considering *Greece* as the  
Mother

## DEDICATION.

Mother of Arts and Literature; that whilst the Reader beholds Science display'd in its Infancy, your Lordship's Name may at the same time give him a more expressive Idea of it in its full Maturity. There are so many Instances of your Lordship's Improvements in that kind, that the only Dispute is, whether You have contributed more to it by your Encouragement, or Example. Such Extent and Variety of Learning, such Strength of Reasoning, and Delicacy of Taste, and such  
an



## DEDICATION.

an Universal Politeness,  
with which your Lordship  
has always temper'd your  
more severe, and weighty  
Inquiries, have completed  
your Lordship's Character,  
and render'd You no  
less the Ornament, than the  
Support of your Country.  
I am with the greatest  
Respect,

MY LORD,

*Your Lordship's*

*most Obedient, and*

*most humble Servant,*

TEMPLE STANYAN.





## P R E F A C E.

**T**HE Affairs of Greece have lain under such a general Suspicion, that I think I ought not to publish any Account of them, without premising something concerning the Truth in History. It is this *Plato* calls the *Property* of it, and *Cicero* its chief *Law* and *distinguishing Character*; And it was in regard to this, that I was deterr'd at my first Entrance upon the *Grecian* Story, especially when I found the Ancients themselves so confounded, that few of them dated it from the same Period. Some affirm there was no History of Greece before *Phoroneus* the Son of *Inachus*: And others fix the *Attic Æra* at the Flood of *Ogyges*, which happen'd about the same time. *Plutarch* makes an Excuse for beginning so high as *Theseus*: *Dionysius Halicarnassæus* says there was nothing certain before the Trojan War; and *Ephorus* the *Cumæan*, *Callisthenes* and *Theopompus* dated their Histories eighty Years lower, from the Return of the *Heraclidæ*. *Varro* calls the Beginning of the *Olympiads* the *Historical Times*: *Pliny* gives little Credit to all that is writ of Greece before the Reign of *Cyrus*, which began in the fifty fifth *Olympiad*; and

## P R E F A C E.

and others place the most ancient Historians but a little before the *Descent* of the *Persian*.

It is not to be imagin'd, that the *Grecians* had for so long a Tract of Time receiv'd no Footsteps of the former Ages; the Dispute is, at what time they came to be so plain, that they might trace them with Ease, and tread in them with Safety. If we enquire a little into the Origin of History, we shall find the innate Desire of Glory put Men upon finding out ways to Transmit their Names to Posterity, even before the Invention of Letters. They left their Images as an Inheritance to their Sons; their most remarkable Atchievements were sign'd by *Hieroglyphicks*, or painted and engrav'd on their Walls; and their Songs, tho' very rude, and ill-modell'd, preserv'd the Memory of their great Captains, and were fresh Incentives to their Posterity. When Writing was in Use, they erected Stones with Inscriptions on them: And *Eusebius* says, that *Hermes Trismegistus* wrote his Doctrine on Pillars, lest, upon the Inundation of the *Nile*, it should be lost. It must be own'd, it was very late before Letters were receiv'd in *Greece*; and even after that, there was not the same Care taken, as in other Nations, to apply the Use of them to History. The *Egyptians*, who pretended to the greatest Improvements,

as

## P R E F A C E.

as well in this, as in other Parts of Learning, committed the Care of their publick *Memoirs* to their Colleges of Priests; Yet as an instance of the general Defect in the History of the first Ages, they could not, even in *Herodotus's* time, give any certain Account of the building their *Pyramids*, nor of their great Monarch *Sesostris*. The *Persian* Historians were the *Magi*, the most considerable among them both for Knowledge and Station: And in *Rome* the *Pontiffs* had the Charge of making their *Annals*. So that the *Grecians* were the only People of Note, who were careless in this respect, and for many Ages follow'd only their first Guide, *Tradition*. It was this made them attribute such immoderate things to Antiquity, that where any Man excell'd in Virtue or Power, he was in process of Time elevated into a Deity; the Distance of Time magnifying things almost in the same Proportion, as the Distance of Place lessens them. And whatever these Traditional Stories were, they were still heightened by the Poets, who were undoubtedly their first Historians. Hence it was, that their History became so vitiated by so many different and monstrous Relations of their Gods and Heroes; and this is the chief Foundation of all the Fables of Antiquity. *Lactantius* observes that the Poets wrote the Truth, tho' they disguis'd

## P R E F A C E.

guis'd it; but the Veil was so thick, that it could never be perfectly thrown off: And therefore the dark and confused Accounts we have of the first Ages, seem like Inscriptions upon ancient Medals half defac'd, where the defective Part is to be supply'd by guess from the remaining Characters.

But notwithstanding the Spirit of *Romance*, which runs through the *Grecian* Story, one may venture to say of the first *Grecians*, what *Monsieur de St. Evremond* does of the *Romans*, that *They had so many real Excellencies to be admir'd for, that there was no need of having Recourse to Fables*. I make no question, but there were such Men as *Hercules*, *Theseus*, and many others, whose Stories are handed down to us; that they did many of the Acts which are ascrib'd to them: And one Reason why Men doubt of their Achievements, may be, because they would not imitate them. For it is a Natural Observation of *Salust*, that we are too apt to take our Dimensions of others from our own Standard, and conceive every thing feign'd, which exceeds our own Power. But what I say of these first Heroes, I would have understood only of the modest part of their Characters; for some things ascrib'd to them, are too gross to bear any colour of Probability. What I have endeavour'd in this short Survey, has been to purge them, as much as possible,

## P R E F A C E.

sible, from the fabulous Aspersions of the Poets, who, by advancing them so far above the Standard of Humanity, have brought their real Merit in question, and eclips'd those Virtues they intended to adorn. If they still seem to act too much above the Condition of Men, I may be allow'd to appeal in their behalf to a later Race of Heroes of our own Nation: And it is not the least part of their Vindication, that we see the Wonders of past Ages so gloriously attested by those of the present. I dare not from hence take occasion to enter into a thorough Defence of Antiquity: I know it would require a much abler Advocate; and I am sensible how far it has already suffer'd in my following Account of it. I can only pretend to have been cautious in affirming any thing, where I doubted my Authority: And tho', among the several Opinions of Authors, I have mark'd out what seem'd to me the most probable, yet there is still room left for the Reader to pass his own Judgment.

Here it may not be improper to say something of the chief Authors, from whom this History is collected, in order to shew how far we may depend upon its Credibility. The first from whom we receive any tolerable Light into the *Grecian* Affairs, is *Herodotus*, who is stiled the *Father of History*, either because he was the first who reduc'd it into any thing of Form, or at least

## P R E F A C E.

the first whose Writings in that kind have been preserv'd. His Stile is so easy, smooth and elegant, and his Matter so entertaining, that for this Reason his Books bear the Names of the *Nine Muses*. His chief Care was to please rather than instruct; and therefore instead of the Wars between the *Grecians* and *Barbarians*, which he promises to treat of, he entertains you with a Collection of Antiquities, which he delivers upon the Credit of the *Ægyptian* Priests, and gives you a Narrative of all he knows. So that half his Book is Digression and *Parentthesis*: And in this Liberty he has been too faithfully imitated by his Successors, many of whose Works are such perfect *Grotesques*, that in perusing them you often lose the principal Design. The heaviest Charge against him is his Fabulousness, and Credulity. But they seem not to be acquainted with his Design, who blame him for want of Truth: He was so far from being a severe Historian, that he endeavour'd only, as the former Poets, to confine himself within the Rules of Probability. Poetry was then at the height; the *Drama* was carry'd high by *Æschylus*, *Sophocles* and *Euripides*, the *Dithyrambick* by *Pindar*, and the *Epick* by *Homer*: *Herodotus* sought out a new Glory, and diverted the *Grecians* with Prose, or rather, as *Quintilian* says, with more secret Numbers.

*Thucydides*



## P R E F A C E.

*Thucydides* soon gave another Turn to History; and tho' his Emulation was first rais'd by the Applause that was given to *Herodotus*, he did not think fit to follow his Example. He declares he was apprehensive his History would not please the present Age, for want of Fables: But yet he chose rather to satisfy the Judgment of Posterity, and he took the surest way of gaining to his Work the Title of an *Everlasting Possession*. His Stile is grave, masculine and elevated; his Reasoning strong and profound, always just, and to the purpose; and his Expression is so close and pointed, that his Words are in a manner Sentences. This Energy and Conciseness in his Diction is said to have render'd him in some Passages too hard and obscure. He is also charg'd with reviving Words which were grown obsolete, and with adopting new ones, and with being over-careful to avoid saying any thing in the common Way. Perhaps he had a little too much Affectation of this kind: But *Cicero* and others, who have censur'd him upon these Accounts, have at the same time spoke of him as the compleatest Model of the *Grecian* History. But whatever Objections there may be to his Stile and Composition, there are none to his Veracity. Nobody, I believe, but *Josephus*, has disputed the Authority of his Facts: And it may be consider'd, that what he has said upon that Head, was in his Answer to *Apion*,

## P R E F A C E.

where he was to make the best of his Argument, as a *Jew*, against all the *Pagan* Writers in general; and therefore found it necessary to attack the Credit of *Thucydides* among the rest: And yet even there, he allows him to be the most cautious and impartial Historian of any in his time. It is a good saying, *That an Historian ought to be of no Country*; and nobody has verify'd it more than *Thucydides*: So that if he had not told you he was an *Athenian*, you would not discover it by his Writing. He says nothing in favour of his Countrymen, but what he is strictly justify'd in by their Actions: And as he avoids all Occasions of lanching out in their Praise; so, on the other hand, he shews no Marks of Resentment against them for their having banish'd him. In short, he has no Friends nor no Enemies; and is almost a single Instance of One, who has wrote with so much Spirit, and so little Passion. If any thing gives a turn of Romance to his History, it is his set Speeches, which perhaps may appear too regular and too elaborate, to be deliver'd in the Heat of Action, or upon any sudden Emergencies. But they are so admirably suited to the Occasion, and to the Character of the Person, and have such an agreeable Mixture of Oratory, and good Sense, that we may easily pardon that as a Blemish in him, which in others would have been look'd upon as their greatest Beauty.

## P R E F A C E.

Beauty. Besides, he deals very fairly with his Reader in this respect : For he does not pretend to have given him the genuin Oration of the Persons he introduces as Speakers. He confesses, that he could not do it exactly in the Terms they deliver'd them ; and that therefore he had contented himself with taking their Meaning and their Sentiments, and had supply'd the rest from himself. And he has done it better than any of the Historians, who have almost universally follow'd the same Method, tho' they have not been so just in acknowledging it. He has throughout the whole of his History, acted with so much Sincerity, Candor and Disinterestedness, that perhaps no Heathen Writer ever equall'd him : And the only thing to be wish'd for more than what he has perform'd, is, that he had taken in a larger Compass of Time.

His Loss was in a great measure repair'd by *Xenophon*, who continu'd his History in so pure and easy, so sweet and unaffected a Style, that from thence he obtain'd the Name of the *Attick Bee*. The Admirers of the *Sublime* charge him with being too much upon the Level : But it was his great Artifice to speak *properly*, and yet not *vulgarly* ; wherein he resembles a clear and gentle Stream, which can hardly be perceiv'd to flow, and yet never stagnates. He was a perfect Master of Nature, and understood the secret Graces of Simplicity ; which

## P R E F A C E.

as it stole insensibly upon his Readers, so it made his Narrative appear more sincere and impartial. In short, he was the only *Grecian*, who knew how to support the Dignity of History with the Plainness of Expression.

*Diodorus Siculus* is to be valued for his laborious Collections; and tho' he takes in too many of the Fables of his Predecessors, and adheres too much to the Traditions of the *Ægyptian* Priests, he serves very well to supply, and compare with others. *Monsieur de la Mothe le Vayer* had such an opinion of him, that he declares, *He would freely travel to the end of the World, if he were sure of finding that Part of him which is lost, and envies Posterity the bare Probability of recovering so great a Treasure.* *Plutarch* has also presented us with many rich and uncommon Gleanings from the Ancients; he has drawn his Heroes in their full Proportion, and, in their Lives, compris'd the History of the most remarkable Occurrences. He is generally cautious and impartial; but as he was a great Collector, he is not always consistent and of a piece, either as to Matter, or Style. Besides one may too easily discover the old Man in him; he loves a Story, tho' never so foreign to his Subject; he tells it with too many Circumstances, and with too great an Air of Superstition. I have always thought he would make an excellent Abridgment: For where he

## P R E F A C E.

he speaks to the purpose, few speak better ; and he has scarce been equall'd in the Justness of his Characters, and the Wisdom of his Reflexions. It is not the least Part of his Merit, that he has preserv'd so many *Sayings* of the greatest Men ; and I have been cautious of omitting any that were material, because, as he says himself, *A Jest or an Apothegm often shews a Man more than a Battle*. The *Lives* of *Nepos* deserve Mention in this Catalogue : But they seem to be only Characters drawn from his general History, and are too short to give us any thorough Image, of Antiquity. And in this respect, *Justin's* Abridgment of *Trogus Pompeius* serves 'chiefly to make us regret the Loss of the Original.

To these Authors I have added the Assistance of our Countrymen, Sir *Walter Raleigh*, Dr. *Howel*, and the learned Sir *John Marsham*, who, in his *Canon Chronicus*, has taken a great deal of pains to reconcile the different *Æra's* of the first Ages. And among the Moderns, I am particularly oblig'd to Monsieur *Tourreil*, who, in his Preface before some of *Demosthenes's* *Oration's*, has laid out an admirable Plan of *Greece* ; wherein, as far as the Compass of his Design would permit, he has distinguish'd the most remarkable Periods, discover'd the *Genius*, and unravell'd the Interests of the several States, and trac'd out the Steps, by which they arriv'd to their turns of Superiority.

## P R E F A C E.

Having mention'd the chief Materials of which this History is compos'd, it may be necessary to shew in what manner I have digested them. As to the Method I have made use of, I could not meet with any more clear and easy, than that laid down in the *English Collection* of the *Roman History*; which I have therefore follow'd in my Division of *Books* and *Chapters*, and whatever else the Subject would admit of. But as the Affairs of *Greece* and *Rome* were very different, so they could not be related altogether after the same manner. *Rome* you see at one View, as well in its Progress, as its Rise. For tho' in process of Time she branch'd out into so many Colonies, they were all subject to her as their Head; thence they receiv'd their Laws as they were conquer'd; and they were always one intire united People. Which makes their Affairs admit of a more clear and even Thread of History, than those of the *Grecians*; who, besides that they had to do with most parts of the then known World, were among themselves so many distinct *Republicks*, almost wholly independent one of another, differing in their Laws and Customs, jealous of each others Superiority, and consequently always jarring in their Interests, unless when mere Necessity oblig'd them to unite against a common Enemy. So that in this respect, one may say of them, as *Florus* did of the *Romans*, that *Theirs is not the History*

## P R E F A C E.

*History of one People, but of Mankind.* 'Tis true, the several States of *Greece* agreed in the main as to the one thing they contended for, which was Liberty; but they had most of them different ways to obtain, and preserve it: And hence proceeds such a Variety and Intricacy in their Affairs, that it is no easy Task to marshal so many Events in due Order of Time and Place, and out of them to collect an intire unbroken Body of History.

As to what further relates to this Undertaking, the Reader will find *Greece* consider'd under two States: It is first divided into *Kingdoms*, the principal of which are treated of separately in the first Book, and carry'd down to the Abolition of the Regal Power. The second Book considers it as form'd into settled Commonwealths, and relates its Affairs in a more united manner. To do this with the less Confusion, I have observ'd a Rule of referring the chief Transactions to *Athens* as the Head, and mentioning the other States only as they had Dependence on it. For this reason I must own a Liberty I have taken in the first Book, of placing the *Kingdom* of *Athens* last, that there might be no thorough Interruption in the Story. Yet tho' I have been particularly cautious of perplexing the Reader by too many different Views, I have not neglected the use of *Chronology*: In which I have chiefly follow'd the Authority of *Archbishop Usher*. Astronomical Niceties cannot  
be

## P R E F A C E.

be expected, where a general Knowledge of the Time is sufficient; and if I have sometimes made use of a round Number, either as to Years, Men, Ships, or the like, I hope it may be allow'd in Cases of the most remote Antiquity, especially where the Difference in Historians is so great, that it is impossible to arrive at any Exactness. I have all along intermix'd as much of the Antiquities, as I thought necessary to illustrate the Story. And as I found myself oblig'd to say something of Arts and Learning, in writing of a Country wherein they were suppos'd to have receiv'd their Birth, I have assign'd the general Periods of *Poetry* and *Philosophy*, and mention'd the greatest Proficients in them, with a short *Account* of their Persons and Writings. As this was intended only for an Abridgment of the *Grecian* Story, I have endeavour'd to reduce the whole into as narrow a compass as possible; and notwithstanding the great Variety of Matter, I hope I have omitted nothing material.



A D.





# ADVERTISEMENT

To this EDITION.

**U**PON my present Publication of the Second Part of this History, I have thought it necessary to make a new Edition of this First Volume, which is now out of print. And in revising it, I have made several Amendments, with some considerable Additions in those Parts, where, upon Experience, I have found the Nature of the Subject has requir'd it; particularly in the Characters of the most remarkable Persons, whose Pictures, I have been told by some of my Friends, would bear being drawn in a stronger Light, and more at their full Proportion. I have accordingly endeavour'd to give a more thorough Description of them; I mean, with regard to their Manners; for as to their Persons, I have now thought it proper to omit the Heads of them in Sculpture, which were added in the former Edition; tho' I must needs say, it was more to please my Bookseller, than myself. I do not deny, that Cuts, if they are well executed, are a proper Embellishment to Works of this kind, and serve to imprint on the Mind of the Reader a stronger Idea of the Person they represent: But to do them as they ought to be, would require more Expence than  
is

## ADVERTISEMENT.

*is fuitable to the Design of this Book, which is intended for common Reading, and at a common Price.*

*In revising the Account I had given of the first Ages of Greece, I have been obliged to the late posthumous Work of Sir Isaac Newton, call'd The Chronology of Ancient Kingdoms amended; wherein he has taken infinite pains to settle the time of their Foundation, and the Succession of their Kings. He has likewise endeavour'd to fix the Dates of the Trojan War, the Return of the Heraclidæ, the Beginning of the Olympiads, and other remarkable Periods. But he does not take upon him to determine them: He says plainly, It's difficult to set right the Genealogies and Chronology of the Fabulous Ages of the Grecians; and I leave these things to be further examin'd. However, he has gone further towards the solving these Difficulties, than any other Writer; and his Conjectures are so well founded, that they will always have their Weight, and be of great Authority in clearing up the Darknes of those Times. And if he had gone lower than the Fabulous Age, he might probably have remov'd some other Doubts of the same kind, which are still remaining. But he was almost wholly employ'd in his Philosophical Enquiries; which, as they were founded upon more certain Principles, were more Satisfactory to himself, and more Beneficial to Mankind; and this Chronological Treatise of his, as laborious and*

## ADVERTISEMENT.

*and learned as it is, was to him but a kind of Relaxation from his other severer Studies. Upon mentioning this Great Man, who has done so much Honour to his Country, and to whom the Commonwealth of Letters is so highly indebted, I cannot but express some Sentiments of the Esteem and Reverence due to his Memory: And when I was writing the History of a Country, to which the Birth of Philosophy is generally assign'd, I thought I could not acquit myself, without paying some particular Regard to the Name of him, who has brought it to so great a degree of Perfection.*

*In speaking of the Olympiads, it were to be wish'd, that the Beginning of them were more thoroughly ascertain'd, in regard to the Use that is made of them in Chronology. But it was very late before they were applied to that Use: For the ancient Historians made their Computations by the Archons of Athens, the Kings and Ephori of Sparta, and the Priestesses of Argos; and where they take occasion to mention the Games, they say nothing of the Olympiads, as Dates, and Divisions of Time. Polybius is said to be the first who reckon'd that way: For the Olympiads, which are inserted, as Annals, in Xenophon's History, are an Interpolation. This late Use of them in Chronology, together with the several Interruptions of the Games after their first Institution, and the not duly registering the Names of some of the Victors,*  
*has*

## ADVERTISEMENT.

*has chiefly occasion'd these Difficulties; inso-  
much that not only the beginning, but the  
first Sixty or Seventy of them, according to  
Sir Isaac Newton, are uncertain. However,  
he has left room for a future Enquiry into  
these Matters; and I doubt not, but the  
World will one day receive some further Light  
into them.*

*There being frequent mention made of Mony  
in the course of this History, I must acquaint  
the Reader, that the Grecian manner of  
Reckoning Sums of Mony, was by Drachma's;  
one of which answer'd to Seven Pence Three  
Farthings of our Mony. An hundred  
Drachma's were equal to a Mina, which  
was 3 l. 4 s. 7 d. And sixty Mina's were  
equal to a Talent, which was 193 l. 15 s.  
that is, the common Silver Talent. They who  
are curious this way, may receive more tho-  
rough Information from the Dissertations of  
my late learned Friend Dr. Arbuthnot upon  
the ancient Coins, Weights and Measures.*



C. O N

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## B O O K

# C O N T E N T S.

## B O O K · II.

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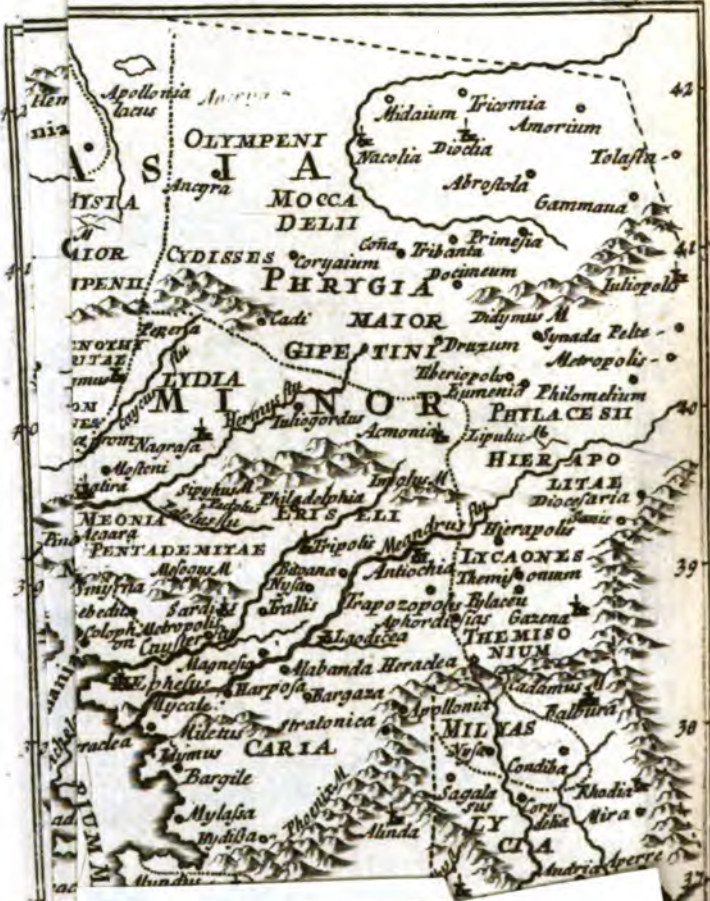
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T H E









# THE INTRODUCTION.

*Of the Original of GREECE, and its  
first Inhabitants.*



S there has been a constant Dispute carry'd on by all Nations in their Pretensions to Antiquity, the *Ægyptians*, *Scythians*, and others, who were resolv'd not to be outdone by their Neighbours, fancied themselves the first Race of Mankind, and that they were of equal Duration with the World. Nor can we exempt the *Grecians* from their Share in this common Vanity; the *Athenians* particularly gave out, That they were produc'd at the same Time with the *Sun*, and out of the same *Soil* that they inhabited. However Pride and Emulation might contribute to this Opinion, it might probably take its Rise from the want of Letters and Civil Government in the first Ages of the World; and as from thence the Original of most Nations became obscure, so consequently must the most plausible Accounts we have of them, be

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very

very precarious. *Greece* we find in a more particular manner labouring under these Difficulties: For she underwent a long Infancy, and tho' she often exerted herself, and signaliz'd it by some generous Exploits; yet the Fame of them being deliver'd down to Posterity, either by uncertain Tradition, or rude imperfect Memoirs, gave occasion to their Historians, as well as Poets in succeeding Ages, to make up in Fiction, what they wanted in authentick Records. This is a short Account of that which we call the *Fabulous Age*; and tho' we find it sufficiently clouded with Error and Superstition, yet there are still some scatter'd Intervals of Light, which must serve to direct us in our Inquiry into the Birth of a People, who have made so glorious a Figure in the World as the *Grecians*. Upon the whole, we may with Safety allot them a Place in Antiquity, but must not give them the Precedency, since it is allow'd by their own Historians, that they were Instructed, and Civiliz'd by Colonies planted among them from *Phœnicia* and *Ægypt*; the first of which taught them Navigation, Trade, and the Use of Letters, and the latter polish'd them by her Laws, gave them a Taste of the Arts and Sciences, initiated them in her Mysteries, and in a word, gave them Kings and Gods.

But before we treat of their Affairs, it will be necessary to take a View of that Part of the  
World,

World, which went under the general Name of *Greece*. As to the Name itself, the *Grecians* were so call'd either from a petty Borough, or *Græcus* a very obscure King, whose Subjects were thought to be originally Inhabitants of *Thessaly*; and therefore some of the ancient Authors confine *Greece* properly so called, to that Country. This was an ancient known Name among them; and the *Romans* paid that Regard to their Antiquity, as generally to call them by it; tho' it has been remark'd, that *Virgil* does not once throughout his whole Poem make use of that Name: And they soon quitted it themselves for that of *Hellenes* or *Achai*; tho' one would wonder that a People so fond of Antiquity, should so easily part with the most eminent Mark of it. But it seems it was a Compliment several of their Kings expected from them; so that they changed their Names almost as often as their Masters.

But since, through a Mixture of Pride and Ignorance, they seem to have corrupted the Names of their *Founders*, and by that means to have disguis'd their true *Origin*, we must have recourse to the more ancient and undoubted Records of *Scripture*.

That *Greece* was first inhabited by the Sons of *Noah*, as other Countries were, is a thing out of dispute; but by whose immediate Posterity, is not so generally allow'd. The Posterity of *Japheth* took possession of the *Isles of the Gentiles*,

Javan  
thought to  
be the same  
with the  
Grecian  
Ion.

which, according to the *Hebrew Idiom*, comprehended not only such as were properly so call'd, but all those Countries which lay towards the Sea at any distance from *Palestine*, especially between the *Ocean* and *Mediterranean Sea*; and so both *Greece* and *Italy* might come under this Denomination. His Son *Javan* seems most probable to have peopled *Greece*, from the exact Analogy he bears with the *Grecian Ion*. *Javan* is the Scripture Word for *Greece*; and it is observable, that tho' among the *Grecians* themselves the *Ionians* were but a part of *Greece*, yet other Nations comprehended all under the Name of *Ionians*. The Memory also of his Son *Elisba* seems to have been preserv'd under the Name of the *Æoles*, or rather *Elis* of *Peloponnesus*, one part of which by *Homer* is call'd *Alifum*; and some from hence derive the *Hellenes*.

Whatever colour these Opinions carry with them, they are not so unexceptionable, but that we may give the *Grecians* leave to tell their own Story. And of them the most Judicious and Inquisitive allow their Country was first inhabited by a barbarous People, different from them both in Language and Manners. *Strabo* has given us a large Catalogue of the *Dryopes*, *Caucones*, *Leleges*, *Aones*, and many others: But these seem not to have been that ancient People, but some later Outcasts of the *Carians*, who made frequent Inroads into *Greece*. So that the most noted,  
and

and of the greatest Extent and Antiquity, were the *Pelasgi*, whose first or chief Place of Residence was *Arcadia*; from whence the *Arcadians* <sup>Account of the Pelasgi.</sup> challeng'd to themselves their Founder *Pelasgus*, and from him deriv'd their Claim to an higher Antiquity than their Neighbours. He pass'd with them for an *Autochthon*, or *Son of the Earth*, as the *Grecians* generally call'd those of whom they could give no better Account. But as by this they betray'd their Ignorance of his Original, so they leave room for an Opinion insisted on by very learned Men, that by *Pelasgus* was <sup>Pelasgus</sup> meant *Peleg*, or *Pbaleg*: Which looks like more <sup>the same with Pha-</sup> than a probable Conjecture, if we allow what is <sup>leg.</sup> generally asserted, that *Greece*, and indeed most other Nations of *Europe*, were peopled out of *Scythia*; from whence the Posterity of *Pbaleg* making their way through *Thrace*, and *Thessaly*, which were already taken up by the Sons of *Elisba* and others, might fix some in *Epirus*, some in *Hellas*, and the greatest part in *Peloponnesus*, where they found the most empty and convenient Habitation. For it is but reasonable to suppose that the Places towards the Sea were the last peopled, first from the want of the Conveniency of Navigation; and afterwards, when that was establish'd, for fear of Pirates, who continually infested their Coasts. This Descent of the Posterity of *Pbaleg* receives further Confirmation from the near Affinity between the

*Affinity between the Grecian and Eastern Languages.* Hebrew Language and the ancient Greek, which is almost universally allow'd to be of *Eastern Extraction*. Nor can we more plausibly account for the many *Dialects*, into which the Greek was distinguish'd, than by its Mixture with other Languages: And in the *Dorick Dialect* we have a plain Instance of the broad Pronunciation so peculiar to the *Oriental Tongues*. There are also the same Footsteps of the *Eastern Languages* to be met with in the Out-skirts of *Greece*, particularly in *Crete* and other Islands, whither this People naturally betook themselves, as they were expell'd *Peloponnesus* and the *Continent*. Whoever these People were, we have no Account of them but under the Name of the *Pelasgi*; from whom *Peloponnesus* had the Name of *Pelasgia*. After they had disperfed themselves throughout all *Greece*, they arriv'd in *Italy*; where they pass'd for the same with the *Tyrrheni*, and as such were conceiv'd to be the original *Founders* of *Rome*. As they were a scatter'd, wand'ring People, never thoroughly settled, or incorporated with the other *Grecians*, they were forc'd to give way to *Hellen*, who was generally reputed the Son of *Deucalion*, tho' some say of *Prometheus* and *Chymene*, and others of *Ion*. He reign'd in *Thessaly* some time after the *Deucalionian Deluge*, and being seated almost in the heart of *Greece*, and he with his Sons bearing a great Sway in those Parts, maintain'd a

Cor-

Hellen.

Correspondence with the neighbouring Cities, 'till by degrees they expell'd the last Remains of the *Pelasgi*: And from thence it was that he impos'd one Name, calling the Country after himself *Hellas*, which was afterwards call'd *Phtiotis*, and the People *Hellenes*. This Name, tho' in process of time it was transferr'd to signify the whole Nation with its Colonies, at first reach'd no farther than his own Dominions. For there were other Kings as zealous as *Hellen* in propagating their Names, in hopes it might prove a considerable step towards the *universal Monarchy of Greece*. And this may account for the variety of Names we find, especially among the Poets, who us'd them promiscuously to express the Nation in general. The most noted among them were *Achæi*, *Argivi*, *Danai*, *Dolopes*, *Hellenes*, *Iones*, *Myrmidones*, and *Pelasgi*, which were particular Parts of *Greece*, so call'd, from their respective Kings, or Founders. But as the *Grecians* did nothing very considerable, either at home or abroad, before the *Trojan War*, it was that first began to unite them under one common Name, and Interest: Neither did they presume 'till after that to call the rest of the World *Barbarians*; that is, 'till they had one establish'd Name and Nation to oppose to them.

The Country which they anciently and properly inhabited was *Hellas*, or *Greece* properly so call'd, being the *Eastern Part of Europe*,  
Description of the Country.

bounded chiefly by two Seas, the *Ionian* on the *West* and *South*, and the *Ægean* on the *East*, which parts them from *Asia*. On the *North* was *Macedonia*, *Illyricum*, and *Epirus*; both which latter had a mixt Dependence on the *Grecians* and *Barbarians*. It was divided by the *Isthmus*, a narrow Neck of Land between the two Seas; the largest part being without the *Isthmus* to the *North*, and the lesser within it to the *South*; which being surrounded every where by the Sea, except the *Isthmus*, made it a *Peninsula*, and from *Pelops*, who reign'd there, was call'd *Poloponnesus*. To these Parts we may add the multitude of Islands which lie dispersed in these Seas: Of which the most remarkable is *Crete*, both for Fame and Extent. The next are *Eubœa*, *Corcyra*, *Cephalenia*, and *Zacynthus*, with many others of less note. These Parts were also subdivided into less Countries, in the nature of Provinces: The most noted of which, in the flourishing Times of *Greece*, were *Thessaly*, *Locri Epicnemidii*, *Opuntii*, and *Ozolæ*, the latter of which lying more Westward, is also distinguish'd by the Name of *Locri Hesperii*, *Bœotia*, *Attica*, *Megaris*, *Phœtis*, *Æolia*, *Acarnania*, and *Doris*; all without the *Isthmus*. Within the *Isthmus* were *Achaia*, *Elis*, *Messenia*, *Laconia*, *Argolis*, and *Arcadia*, all comprehended under the general Name of *Peloponnesus*.

These



These were the native fix'd Seats of the *Grecians*, 'till increasing in Power, and press'd with Numbers, they threw themselves out in Colonies, and so enlarg'd their Territories. By these means they got possession as well of the remoter Parts, as those which border'd upon them, especially the Sea-coasts of *Macedonia*, *Thrace*, *Illyricum* and *Epirus*; as also of *Sicily*, the largest Island in *Europe* next our own, with the *Southern* part of *Italy*; both which from the many Colonies planted there went under the Name of *Magna Græcia*. As for *Macedonia* in general, we are not yet to consider it as a part of *Greece*, 'till by a large Accession of Territory it grew formidable to the most remote and powerful States of *Greece*; and from thence laid the Foundation of that Sovereignty it soon after assum'd under the Title of the *Third Monarchy*. They had also in the *Lesser Asia*, *Pontus*, *Bitbynia*, *Phrygia*, *Lydia*, *Caria*, *Lycia*, *Pamphylia*, and the Island *Cyprus*. To these we may add several famous Islands belonging to *Asia*, as *Lesbos*, *Cbios*, *Samos*, *Cos*, *Carpathus* and *Rhodes*, with *Lemnos* near *Thrace* in the *Ægean Sea*. But these and other less Colonies we shall have occasion to mention more particularly, as they fall in with the Body of the Story. It may suffice in general, that they got footing in most parts of the old known World; and wherever they planted their Colonies, they generally propagated by them

them their Race, Religion, Laws, Customs, and Language.

We have no particular Account of the State of *Greece* before the Foundation of her *Royalties*; nor indeed can we expect any thing worth our Notice from a People who were at that time rude and unpolish'd even to Barbarism. For it is certain they were unacquainted with Agriculture, Building, and all the earliest and most natural Inventions of providing for the common Necessaries of Life, having no Law but Force, and grazing like Beasts in the open Air. So that to give them the least Tincture of Humanity, was sufficient to gain from them the Title of King, or God; witness the divine Honours they paid to their *Pelasgus*, who built them a sort of Cottages to fence them from the Inclemency of the Air, clothed them with the Skins of Beasts, and taught them to feed on Acorns, as a more wholsom Nourishment than that of Herbs. This new Diet, whatever other good Effects it might have, wrought no great Change in their Manners; so that *Greece* was not for several Ages after inhabited in any constant settled way. They were still the same lawless Rout, continually roving and removing from one Place to another; and such as were not content with their own Fortune, were easily tempted to invade their Neighbours. In this general Contest the richest Countries fell to the strongest: But

as

as the Conquest was easy, so the Possession was short, they being soon succeeded by others upon the same Title. For this reason *Thessaly* and *Peloponnesus*, and indeed all the fertile Regions of *Greece*, chang'd their Masters every Year, with a great part of their Inhabitants. The Country which was least molested upon these Accounts, was *Attica*; and it is imputed chiefly to the Barrenness of its Soil. For there being nothing worth contending for, the Inhabitants were continu'd quietly in a long and regular Descent; and this gave the *Athenians* the best Title to Antiquity, or at least the best Proofs of it. But the greatest Advantage was, that it made them exert themselves sooner than their Neighbours; it quicken'd their Invention, dispos'd them to a more easy Reception of Arts and Literature, when they got footing among them, and in a manner laid the Foundation of all that Grandeur, to which they afterwards arriv'd.

But to return to *Greece* in general, the other Parts of it were over-run with Spoil and Rapine. The continual Fear of being displac'd made them live as it were by chance, without any further Prospect than their present Sustenance; and so cramp'd their Industry in general, that we find nothing of the Arts and Sciences at that time among them, no Trade or Commerce, or any other happy Effects of Peace and Security. They at last grew sensible of the necessity there  
was

was of Civil Society, as a means to secure them from Violence and Oppression. This put them upon improving their Notions of Building; so that their Houses increasing in Number as well as Beauty, grew insensibly into *Boroughs*, and they some time after into *Cities*. But neither could this Advantage of Cohabitation thoroughly tame and soften their Tempers; that being a peculiar Honour reserv'd, (as was hinted before) for *Ægypt* and *Phœnicia*.



THE



THE  
GREEKIAN  
HISTORY.

BOOK I.

*The State of the several Kingdoms of Greece,  
from the Foundation of the Kingdom of  
Sicyon, to the last Remains of Regal Power  
in Athens.*

*Containing the Space of 1579 Years.*

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CHAP. I.

*The Kingdom of Sicyon.*

*Containing the Space of about 1000 Years.*



THE first Kingdom we find mention'd in Greece, is that of Sicyon, Sicyon the a Town situate in Peloponnesus, <sup>first Kingdom.</sup> near the Isthmus in the Confines of Achaia, said to be built within a little time after the Universal Deluge. Which, as it is the most ancient of any in Europe, and some say in the World, not allowing

lowing even the *Assyrian* or *Egyptian* Kingdoms to have preceded it, we must therefore content ourselves with a very slender Account of it; especially since we have almost as much reason to dispute, as to assert its real Existence. Here, they

A. M. say, *Ægialeus* first reign'd about the 1915th Year  
 1915. of the World, and from himself nam'd not only  
*Ægialeus*. the City with its Territory, but some say the greatest part of *Peloponnesus*, *Ægialea*; as from

Apis. *Apis*, another of its Kings, it was call'd *Apia*,  
 Sicyon. and from *Sicyon*, *Sicyonia*. Authors are so far from recording any other memorable Actions of the Kings of *Sicyon*, or assigning the just Length of their Reigns, that they cannot agree as to their Number, Order, or Names. For *Homer* seems to make *Adrastus* the first King; and tho' *Zeuxippus* is usually plac'd as the last, yet *Pausanias* reckons *Hippolitus* and *Lacestades* after him, and in his Catalogue omits *Polyphides*. Sir *Isaac Newton* observes that the Chronologers have split *Apis*, *Epapbus*, or *Epopeus* into two Kings, whom they call *Apis* and *Epopeus*, and between them have inserted eleven or twelve feign'd Names of Kings who did nothing; and thereby they have made *Ægialeus* the Founder of this Kingdom, three hundred Years older than his Brother *Phoroneus*; which Account, if we allow these two Princes to have been the Sons of *Inachus*, cannot be made consistent: And therefore the Opinion of those, who, tho' they reckon *Sicyon* among the ancient Kingdoms, yet bring the Foundation of

of it as low, or lower than that of *Argos*, may help to reconcile this Difference. And the most probable way of doing it, is by rejecting the abovementioned imaginary Kings, and inserting but one under the Name of *Apis*, *Epaphus*, or *Epopeus*. But under so many Uncertainties every thing that is recorded of *Sicyon*, as a Kingdom, becomes liable to exception; insomuch that the most accurate Inquirers into the first Ages, strike off the whole Succession of these Kings for the space of near a thousand Years, leaving them no Place in Antiquity. But making some Allowances for such a vast distance of Time, and the want of Records; and supposing *Sicyon* to be peopled so early, as, from the Fruitfulness and Conveniency of its Situation, we may reasonably conclude it was, and we may yet believe she had her Kings, that being the Government which obtain'd in most Countries, as they came to be inhabited, after the Flood. Accordingly there were Kings originally in several Parts of *Greece*, besides those which I have distinctly treated of; as in *Arcadia*, *Messenia*, *Thessaly*, and other Provinces; in *Crete*, and other Islands; and in *Elis*, *Eleusis*, and other particular Cities. But their Reigns are too dark and confused, to attempt the giving any regular Succession of them: And therefore I have taken notice but of few of them, and that has been occasionally only, as some remarkable Passages concerning them have happen'd to intermix with the general History of the Country.

We

We can only observe of the first Kings of *Greece* in general, that they are represented as Persons of great Worth and Renown, who for their Courage, Prudence and other Virtues, were chosen by the free and universal Consent of the People. But they were consider'd chiefly as the Leaders of their Armies. And therefore *Thucydides* observes, that under *Cecrops*, and the other ancient Kings of *Attica*, 'till the time of *Theseus*, the King was not consulted but in Cases of Danger; for that each City had its own Magistrates and Courts, by which they carried on the ordinary course of Government, and were a sort of Commonwealth within themselves. The Case was much the same in the other Parts of *Greece*. But by the Credit and Influence these first Kings had in their Capacity of Generals and Commanders, they soon found means of enlarging their Authority, and extending it to the Civil Administration. However, they did not presently make an ill use of their Power. There seems by their long and quiet Reigns to have been a perfect good Understanding between Prince and People; who, as they yielded an intire and voluntary Obedience, so the Kings chose to command rather by Love, and Esteem of their Merit, than by the Force of their Arms, and a slavish Dread of their Power. In all their Actions they preferr'd the Good of their Subjects, for whose Protection they knew and acknowledg'd themselves to have been advanc'd,  
before



before any covetous or ambitious Designs of their own; and the People plac'd such a Confidence in the Equity of their Prince, that *Greece* had not for several Ages; after it was a little civiliz'd, any standing Laws, but the indefinite Will and Sentence of its Kings. But this Harmony being destroy'd in succeeding Ages by Policy, Interest and Thirst of Empire, the People, as Opportunity offer'd, resum'd the Power into their own Hands; and this gave rise to more different Forms of Government in *Greece*, than in any other Parts, or perhaps in the whole World besides.

But to return to *Sicyon*, it is certain that Kingdom never made any mighty Figure in this long tract of Time, and that may be the chief Reason of its Obscurity. Thus it lies involv'd in the Fate of several other petty Royalties, which never contended for Superiority with the leading States of *Greece*; so that were it not for some of their Princes Names, which are rescu'd from Oblivion by the Poets, we should never know there had been any such Kingdoms in the World.

Upon the Death of the last King of *Sicyon*, the *Sicyon go-* Government was devolv'd upon the *Priests* of <sup>vern'd by</sup> *Apollo*, seven of which held it about thirty three <sup>the Priests</sup> of *Apollo*. Years, 'till by degrees this little Kingdom sunk <sup>Annex'd to</sup> under the Power of its Neighbours, and was <sup>Argos.</sup> annex'd to the Dominions of *Argos*.

~~NEWTON'S METHOD OF CALCULUS~~

## CHAP. II.

### *The Kingdoms of Argos and Mycenæ.*

*Containing the Space of about 800 Years.*

**H**ERE we have somewhat of a Light to direct us, tho' it breaks in so gradually, that it serves chiefly to discover our want of more, and rather to raise our Curiosity, than to satisfy it. The Kingdom of *Argos* has an undoubted Claim to the second Place in Antiquity, if not the first; and what it wanted of *Sicyon* in Years, is sufficiently made up in Riches, Fame and Power; insomuch that this City was thought to vie with the whole World for Splendor and Magnificence. The Foundation of this Kingdom is generally ascribed to *Inachus* about the A. M. 2148th Year of the World, 232 after that of 2148. *Sicyon*, and 1080 before the beginning of the Inachus. *Olympiads*. He is call'd the Son of *Oceanus*, which was probably from his coming by Sea out of *Ægypt* into *Greece*. After a Reign of Phoroneus fifty Years he was succeeded by his Son *Phoroneus*. But others more accurate, as they exclude *Sicyon*, so they speak of *Inachus* as a River only of that Name, and begin their Account of the Grecian Affairs from *Phoroneus*, who therefore is thought by those who had no better account of things,

things, to be the first Man, and is called the *Father of Mankind*. At least he is the first who did any thing memorable in *Greece*: For he is said to have built the first Altar to *Juno*; and having begun with Religion, his next Care was to unite his Subjects into a sort of Community, by building the City from him call'd *Phoronium*, to prescribe them Laws, and to bring them from mere Savages to somewhat of a more civiliz'd way of Living. The *Telchines*, and *Caryates* a People that inhabited *Arcadia*, join'd in War against him, and the *Parrhasians* another Part of *Arcadia*, but were conquer'd and drove into *Crete*, and from thence to *Rhodes*, which from them had the Name of *Telchinis*; and thence *Phoroneus* obtain'd the Dominion of the whole *Peninsula*, and after a Reign of sixty Years left the Kingdom to his Son *Apis*. There Apis, three of this Name. were three of this Name, one of *Sicyon*, another of *Aegypt*, and this of *Argos*, whom the *Mythologists* confound, by attributing to all what was done by one, which is usual among the *Grecians* in the case of their Gods and Heroes. This might give grounds to the Story of his going into *Aegypt*, where he built the City *Memphis*, taught the People Tillage, and was after his Death worshipp'd as a God in the shape of an Ox, under the Name of *Serapis* or *Osiris*. But allowing there was such a King of *Argos*, which is not generally assented to, the most probable Account is, That he liv'd and dy'd in *Greece*,

commanded the *Peninsula* to be called after his Name, and in the thirty fifth Year of his Reign was kill'd for his Tyranny; which was not common in these early Times. *Apis* dying without

*Argus.*

Issue was succeeded by *Argus*, his Sister *Niobe's* Son, who is confounded with his Great Grandson of that Name, whom the Poets make all Eyes. His Reign is more remarkable for the Length of it, being seventy Years, than any thing else, except that *Greece* in his time had vast Plenty of Corn, for which he was honoured after his Death with a Temple and Sacrifice;

*The Art of Tillage ascribed to Homogyrus.*

the Art of Tillage is more properly assigned to *Homogyrus*, who first yoked Oxen in the Plough. He also called the City and *Peninsula* from himself, *Argos*, and his Subjects *Argi*, and *Argioi*. Some fancy his Brother was the *Pelasgus* already mention'd as Founder of the *Pelasgi*, who chiefly inhabited *Arcadia*, and being dispers'd into several Parts of *Greece*, sent Colonies

*Crius.*

into *Latium*. To him succeeded his Son *Crius*, the same whom *Pausanias* calls *Peirasus*, and some *Perantbus*. Others make them distinct Kings, and ascribe to *Perantbus* the building of the first Temple to *Juno* at *Argos*, much about the time of the building the Temple of *Solomon*. It is certain there was such a Temple about this time consecrated to *Juno*, and *Callytbia* the Daughter of *Perantbus* made Priestess of it; which might occasion the mistake of his being King. This Superstition was continu'd for many Ages;

## Chap. II. *The Grecian History.* 21

Ages; and as all their Affairs, publick and private, were dated from such a Year of the *Priesthood*, it became the standing *Aera* of the *The Argive Argives*: Infomuch that *Hellanicus*, who was *Aera.* twelve Years older than *Herodotus*, digested his History by the Ages, or Successions of the *Priestesses* of *Juno Argiva*. *Crius* reign'd fifty four Years, and left the Kingdom to his Son or Phorbas. Brother *Phorbas*.

There were at this time contemporary with *Moses* and the *Patriarchs* several famous Men, who open'd a Passage for Science and Humanity, which first dawn'd in the *East*, and now got *The dawn footing in Europe*, particularly in those Parts of *of Science And Civility.* *Greece* towards *Asia* and *Judea*. Among these we may reckon *Atlas*, the Son of *Japetus* probably the same with *Japheth*, who for his Skill in Astronomy, and Invention of the Globe, was said to bear up the Heavens; and upon the same accounts his Daughters pass'd for Stars, under the Names of the *Pleiades* and *Hyades*. Nor is less Honour due to his Brother *Prometheus*, who was thought to have form'd Men of Clay, and animated them with Fire which he stole from Heaven, because he was a wise Man, who endeavour'd to reclaim Men from their brutal Ignorance, and teach 'em the use of Reason. And this seems to confirm another part of his Story; where, by the Eagle continually preying upon his Entrails, may be imply'd his deep and painful Enquiries after Knowledge. He is from several

veral concurring Circumstances thought to have been the same with *Magog*.

*Phorbas*, after thirty five Years, left the Kingdom to his Son *Triopas*, who enjoy'd it forty six Years, and was succeeded by his Son *Jafus*, as *Pausanias* will have it, who probably might reign, because the City was from him call'd *Jases*, and the Citizens *Jasii*. His Daughter was the famous *Io*, whose Story is so bandy'd about by the Poets; tho' she is not to be confounded with another of that Name, the reputed Daughter of *Inachus*. *Herodotus* tells her Story most plausibly, that the *Phenicians*, who first applied themselves to Shipping, as they traded with Goods from *Affyria* and *Egypt*, came to *Argos* at that time the *Metropolis* of *Greece*; where the Women flock'd down to their Ships to buy of them. The *Phenicians* seiz'd as many as they could of them, and among the rest this *Io* the King's Daughter, and sail'd away with them into *Egypt*; which was resent'd so hainously, that it was thought the Foundation of all the Quarrels and Enmity which afterwards broke out between the *Grecians* and *Asiaticks*. To return to *Jafus*, it is more generally agreed that *Crotopas*, his Brother *Agenor's* Son, succeeded his Grandfather *Triopas*, who after twenty one Years left the Kingdom to his Son *Sthenelas*. As *Jafus* is not generally reckon'd in the Number of these Kings; so it is doubted, whether *Phorbas* and his Son *Triopas* ought not to be excluded, it being said,

said, that they fled from *Argos* to the Island of *Rhodes*: And the same Doubt has been rais'd concerning *Crotopus*, because he is likewise said to have left *Argos*, and to have built a new City for himself in *Megaris*. But allowing the Succession of these first eight Kings, as they now stand, there are other Objections made as to the length of their Reigns, which amounting in the whole to three hundred and seventy one Years, and being at the proportion of above forty six Years to each of them one with another, has been taken notice of by the \* *Great Chronologer before-mention'd*, to be too much above the common course of Nature, to be credited. He makes the like Observation with regard to the Kings of *Sicyon*, *Sparta* and other Cities, who lived before the time of the *Persian Empire*, that they have been made to reign about thirty five, or forty Years apiece, one with another; whereas in the ordinary course of Succession, eighteen or twenty Years may be thought a proper *Medium* for each Reign. And this he demonstrates from the several Successions of the Kings of *Judah* and *Israel*, of *Persia*, *Macedonia*, and other Countries; as likewise of thirty of our own Kings from *William the Conqueror*, and of sixty three Kings of *France* from *Pharamond*. To which he adds, That in the later Ages, since Chronology hath been exact, there is scarce an Instance to be found of ten Kings reigning any where in continual Succession above two hun-

\* *Sir Isaac Newton.*

dred

dred and sixty Years: And that the way of calculating and accounting for these long Reigns in the first Ages, was by a *Technical Chronology* that was introduced by *Timæus*, and other *Grecian* Writers, who, after the Example of the *Agyptians*, have taken the Reigns of Kings for Generations, and reckon'd three Generations to an hundred, and sometimes to an hundred and twenty Years.

But to proceed according to the common receiv'd Accounts of these Kings, *Stbenelas* reign'd  
 Gelanor. eleven Years, and was succeeded by his Son *Gelanor*. In his time there happen'd a Contest between the two Sons of *Belus*, *Aegyptus* and *Danaus*; the former of which was King of *Aegypt*, and gave his Name to the Country. He would have match'd his fifty Sons to the same number of Daughters of his Brother *Danaus*; which being contrary to the Advice of the Oracle, he refused, and set sail with them first to *Rhodes*, and thence to *Argos*. The Ship was call'd *Pentecontoris*, and is noted as the first of any Bulk that came into *Greece*. At *Argos* he contended with *Gelanor* for the Kingdom, as descended from *Epaphus* Son of the first *Io*. As he was making out his Pretensions to the People, a Wolf happened to kill an Ox grazing by the Walls. This Accident was interpreted by the People in favour of  
 Danaus. *Danaus*, whom as a Stranger they took to signify the Wolf, and thereupon adjudg'd the Kingdom to the *Agyptian*. But *Aegyptus*, still jealous of  
 the



the Increase of his Brother's Power by contracting new Alliances upon his Daughters Marriages, sent his fifty Sons down to *Argos* with an Army to force him to comply with his former Demand. The young Men gain'd their Uncle's Consent: but he had secretly provided his Daughters with Daggers, and Instructions to murder their Husbands the first Night. This Act of the *Danaides* was look'd upon as one <sup>Act of the Danaides.</sup> of the most barbarous Exploits of Antiquity: For the only one who escap'd out of this general Massacre, was *Lyncus* the Husband of *Hypermnestra*, who was therefore accus'd by her Father, and brought to Judgment, but acquitted. *Danaus* in his Reign built the Tower which went by the Name of *Larissa*; and his Daughters are said to have supply'd the City with Water by the Invention of Wells, which they probably brought out of *Egypt*, where Water was scarce; and this is the most natural Foundation of the Fable, that for their Cruelty to their Husbands, they were condemn'd to draw Water in leaky Vessels.

*Danaus*, after fifty Years, was succeeded by *Lyncus*, his Son-in-law. And he, after forty one <sup>Lyncus.</sup> more, by his Son *Abas*, who reign'd twenty three. <sup>Abas.</sup> This *Abas* has been confounded with another of that Name, who built *Abæa* in *Pbocis*, and might be the Prince, from whom the Inhabitants of the Island of *Eubæa* were anciently called *Abantes*. By which of these two the Succession in this Kingdom

Kingdom was carried on, is not clear: But one  
*Prætus and* of them left two Sons, *Acrisius* and *Prætus*, who  
*Acrisius.*

being Twins contended for the Kingdom; which  
*Prætus* first enjoy'd for seventeen Years, and then  
 was expell'd by *Acrisius* into *Lydia*; from whence  
 he return'd with some considerable Force, seiz'd  
 upon *Tyrinthe*, and gave his Brother Battle,  
 wherein they are the first recorded to have us'd

*Targets* Targets. But it not being a decisive Battle, they  
*first us'd.*

came to an Accommodation, and divided the  
 Kingdom, so far at least, that *Acrisius* kept pos-  
 session of *Argos*, and let his Brother enjoy *Ty-  
 rinthe*, and some other maritime Places. *Acrisius*

*Danae.* had one only Daughter nam'd *Danae*, who the  
 Oracle told him should have a Son that would  
 procure his Death.

*Account* But before we proceed, it may not be amiss  
*of Oracles.* to give some account of these *Oracles*, which  
 made up so considerable a part of the *Grecian  
 Superstition*. They were rank'd among the no-  
 blest and most religious kinds of Divination;  
 the Design of them being to settle such an im-  
 mediate way of Converse with their Gods, as  
 to be able by them not only to explain things  
 intricate and obscure; but also to anticipate the  
 Knowledge of future Events, and that with far  
 greater Certainty than they could hope for  
 from Men, who, out of Ignorance and Pre-  
 judice, must sometimes either conceal or betray  
 the Truth. So that this became the only safe  
 way of deliberating upon Affairs of any con-  
 sequence,

sequence, either publick or private. Whether to proclaim War, or conclude a Peace, to institute a new Form of Government, or enact new Laws, all was to be done with the Advice and Approbation of the Oracle, whose Determinations were always held sacred and inviolable. As to the Causes of Oracles, *Jupiter* was look'd upon as the first Cause of this and all other sorts of Divination; he had the Book of Fate before him, and out of that reveal'd either more or less, as he pleas'd, to *inferior Demons*. But to argue more rationally, this way of Access to the Gods has been branded as one of the earliest and grossest pieces of *Priestcraft* that obtain'd in the World. For the Priests whose Dependence was on the Oracles, when they found the Cheat had got sufficient footings, allow'd no Man to consult the Gods without costly Sacrifices and rich Presents to themselves; And as few could bear this Expence, it serv'd to raise their Credit among the common People, by keeping them at an awful distance. And to heighten their Esteem with the better and wealthier Sort, even they were only admitted upon a few stated Days. By which the thing appear'd still more mysterious, and for want of this good Management must quickly have been seen through, and fell to the ground. But whatever juggling there was as to the religious part, Oracles had certainly a good effect as to the Publick, being admirably suited to

to the Genius of a People, who would join in the most desperate Expedition, and admit of any Change of Government, when they understood by the Oracle it was the irresistible Will of the Gods. This was the Method *Minos*, *Lycurgus*, and all the famous Lawgivers took; and indeed they found the People so intirely devoted to this part of Religion, that it was generally the easiest, and sometimes the only way of winning them into a Compliance. And then they took care to have them deliver'd in such ambiguous Terms, as to admit of different Constructions according to the Exigency of the Times; so that they were generally interpreted to the Advantage of the State, unless sometimes there happen'd to be Bribery or Flattery in the case; as when *Demosthenes* complain'd that the *Pythia Philippiz'd*. The most numerous, and of greatest repute, were the Oracles of *Apollo*, who, in Subordination to *Jupiter*, was appointed to preside over, and inspire all sorts of *Prophets* and *Diviners*. And amongst these the *Delphian* challeng'd the first place, not so much in respect of its Antiquity, as its Perspicuity, and Certainty; insomuch that the Answers of the *Tripes* came to be us'd proverbially for *clear and infallible Truths*. Here we must not omit the first *Pythia* or Priests of this famous Oracle,

*Phemonoe* *Phemonoe*, who is placed under the Reign of *Acrisus*, and by most recorded as the first who clothed the Answers of the Oracle in *Hexameter*.

Verse,

Verse. They found a secret Charm in Numbers, which made every thing look pompous and weighty: And hence it became the general Practice of Legislators, and Philosophers, to deliver their Laws and Maxims in that Dress; and scarce any thing in those Ages was writ of Excellence or Moment, but in Verse. This was *The Dawn* the *Dawn of Poetry*, which soon grew into re-*of Poetry*-pute; and so long as it serv'd to such noble purposes as *Religion* and *Government*, Poets were highly honour'd, and admitted into a Share of the Administration. But by that time it arriv'd to any perfection, they pursu'd more mean and servile ends; and as they prostituted their Muse, and debas'd the Subject, they sunk proportionably in their Esteem and Dignity. As to the History of Oracles, we find them mention'd in the very *Infancy of Greece*; and it is as uncertain when they were finally extinct, as when they begun. For they often lost their Prophetick Faculty for some time, and recover'd it again. I know 'tis a common Opinion, that they were universally silenc'd upon our *Saviour's* Appearance in the World: And if the *Devil* had been permitted for so many Ages to delude Mankind, it might probably have been so. But we are assur'd from History, that several of them continued till the Reign of *Julian the Apostate*, and were consulted by him: And therefore I look upon the whole Business as of human Contrivance, an egregious Imposture founded upon

*Superstition,*

*Superstition*, and carried on by *Policy* and *Interest*, till the brighter *Oracles* of the *Holy Scriptures* dispell'd these *Mists of Error* and *Enthusiasm*.

To return to *Acrisus*, upon this Advice of the Oracle, he kept his Daughter *Danae* under very close Confinement: But *Jupiter* came to her in a Shower of Gold, or rather her Uncle *Prætus* brib'd her Keepers, and left her with child of *Perseus*. It is observ'd of most of the famous Men of Antiquity, that they were begotten by Adultery and Incest. If their Mothers were of a noble Descent, the Theft was father'd upon some of the Gods; and the People in regard to their Virtue, and good Offices to the Publick, were easily satisfied in the Belief of it. Thus *Perseus* was of the number of those who cast the Reproach of their Birth upon *Jupiter*. The Boy with his Mother was said to be thrown into the Sea, but was miraculously convey'd to the Island *Seriphus*, and, like the Heroes of those Times, signaliz'd his Youth by destroying of Monsters, particularly the *Gorgon Medusa*, whose Head he wore as a Trophy in the middle of his Shield. It is thought this *Medusa* was a beautiful Queen in *Africa*, and that *Perseus* went with an Army out of *Peloponnesus*, and conquer'd her. So that this Expedition may be more properly plac'd after his Return home upon his Grandfather's Death. He married *Andromeda*, after he had deliver'd her from a Sea-monster, or rather rescu'd her from one *Phœnix*, who was sailing away with

The Gorgon Medusa.

with her in a Ship call'd *The Whale*, and after that return'd to *Argos* to see his Grandfather. But *Acrisius*, in hopes to defeat the Oracle, retir'd into *Thessaly*; where *Perseus* happening to meet him at some publick Games there, kill'd him by an accidental Blow with a Quoit, after a Reign of thirty one Years. About this time came into *Pelops*, *Greece*, *Pelops*, the Son of *Tantalus* King of *Sipylus* in *Phrygia*. He had been worsted in War by *Ilus* the Son of *Tras*, and fled for Refuge to *Oenomaus* King of *Pisa* in *Elis*, where he succeeded him in the Kingdom by marrying his Daughter *Hippodamia*. He had by her a numerous Issue, and by their Marriages, and a Reign of fifty eight Years, got footing in most parts of the *Peninsula*, calling it from himself, *Peloponnesus*. His Posterity maintain'd their ground; and the Family of the *Pelopidae* became as remarkable both for their Exploits, and their Misfortunes, as any in *Greece*.

*Perseus*, upon the foremention'd Accident, <sup>*The repeated*</sup> took such an Aversion to *Argos*, that he translated <sup>*Fall of Argos upon the*</sup> the Regal Seat to *Mycenæ*, where he founded <sup>*Death of*</sup> both a City and Kingdom. So that the Fall of <sup>*Acrisius.*</sup> *Argos* is generally dated from the Death of <sup>*A. M.*</sup> *Acrisius*, after it had continu'd, from its suppos'd Founder *Inachus*, about 544 Years. Some indeed look upon this State of *Mycenæ* only as a Continuation of the Kingdom of *Argos*, and therefore assign but one Succession of Kings to both Places. But others affirm, with more colour  
of

Argos di-  
vided.

of Reason, that *Perseus* made an actual Exchange with his Cousin *Megapenthes*, who was then reigning at *Tyrintbe* in right of his Father *Prætus*; that *Megapenthes* was succeeded at *Argos* by his Son *Anaxagoras*, who contenting himself with a Third of the Kingdom, divided the rest between two Brothers, *Melampus* and *Bias*; the former of which had cured the *Prætides* his Aunts of their Madness by the use of *Hellebore*. However this dismembring of *Argos* so lessen'd the Figure her Princes were wont to make, and withal, wrought such a Confusion in their Affairs, that it is hardly possible to rank them in any order of Time and Place. We can only conclude in general, that *Perseus* alter'd the Succession, without putting a final Period to the Kingdom: For we find several Kings mention'd even after *Anaxagoras*; as *Alektor*, *Ipbis*, *Eteocles*, who was kill'd in the *Theban* War; *Talaos* the Son of *Bias*, *Adrastus*, and his Son-in-law *Tydeus* the Father of *Diomedes*.

Foundation  
of Mycenæ  
by Perseus.

Amidst these Uncertainties let us return to *Mycenæ*, where we left *Perseus* settling his new-raised Kingdom, which he enjoy'd fifty eight Years. We must allow him one of the first Places among the Heroes of these Times, especially if we may add to his other Atchievements the Conquest of *Persia*, which it is thought took its Name from him, or his Son *Perfes*. But it does not appear, that the *Grecians* had yet made any Inroads into the *East*, much less with a Body



Body of Men sufficient to subdue such a vast Tract of Land. *Perseus* left five Sons, *Perfes*, *Alceus* Father of *Amphitryon*, *Sthenelus*, *Electryon* and *Maftor*. It is thought he was succeeded by *Maftor*, and he by his Brother *Electryon* Father of *Alcmena*. But this Opinion not being generally receiv'd, we must look upon *Sthenelus* as *Sthenelus*. his immediate Successor; and to salve these Difficulties, have recourse to the common Method of *Cbronologers*, who assign to some of the succeeding Kings an Overplus of Years to account for the two former, whose Reigns are uncertain. *Sthenelus* reign'd eight Years, and by *Aftydamia* the Daughter of *Pelops* left *Euryftheus* his Suc- *Euryfthe-*cessor, who is noted for the difficult Tasks he <sup>us.</sup> impos'd on *Alceus*, better known by his Sirname *Account of* *Hercules*, given him upon the Fame of his Ex- *Hercules.* ploits; of whom we must give some account, since his Actions are the most talk'd of, tho' with the least Certainty, of all the Heroes of Antiquity. For some reckon up three, others four, *Cicero* six, and *Vatro* forty four of this Name. Almost every Age and Country had its *Hercules*, it being a common Custom to call the most ancient Kings by the Name of *Saturn*, their Sons by that of *Jupiter*, and the most valiant and active of their Grandsons by this of *Hercules*. Hence it became difficult to distinguish among so many; and therefore the Actions of all are generally ascrib'd to this latter: So that it is easier to say he was certainly very emi-

nent in his Time, than to tell you by what means he became so. This *Hercules* was the Son of *Amphitryon* and *Almena*, both descended immediately from *Perseus*; tho' the Poets assign *Jupiter* for his Father, which may be understood of some neighbouring Prince. For the *Phœnicians*, upon their first coming into *Greece*, gave the Name of *Jao-pater*, or *Jupiter*, to every King. His early Valour, and being so nearly related to the Crown, gave *Eurystheus* sufficient Umbrage; who therefore, to be honourably rid of him, put him upon all the dangerous Enterprises he could devise. The chief of which are included in his *Twelve Labours*: But they are describ'd in so romantick a manner, that it is hardly consistent with the Gravity of History to relate them. For what shall we say to his *Nemean Lion*, his *Hydra*, his *Erymanthian Boar*, and the rest of his incredible Acts, unless we understand by them the most notorious Robbers, Murderers, and Tyrants subdu'd by him, which, like so many *Pests*, and *Monsters of Mankind*, at that time infested the World? To these twelve Labours, which he perform'd chiefly at the Instigation of *Eurystheus*, whose Jealousy gave the chief rise to his Glory, we may add several others which he undertook of himself: And our Esteem of them is not so much the effect of a blind Zeal for Antiquity, as the Respect Men naturally have for a generous Valour, which protects the weak instead of insulting

ing them, and is so far from committing Violence, that it is wholly employ'd in repressing it. But withal it must be own'd, there was a great deal of the Spirit of *Knight-Errantry* in these first Ages of the World, when the Heroes were not content to signalize themselves at home by freeing their Country, but rov'd about in search of foreign Adventures. And hither may be re-ferr'd the famous *Expedition* of the *Argonauts*; which falling in with these Times, and being the first recorded of that kind, must not be omitted.

The chief Captain of this Voyage was *Jason*, *Expedition of the Argonauts.* a young Prince of *Iolcus* in *Thessaly*, the Son of *Æson*, and fourth in descent from *Æolus*; who was put upon it by *Pelias* his Uncle, who had usurp'd the Kingdom. *Jason* reflecting with himself what Renown *Perseus* and others had lately gain'd, clos'd with his Advice; and declaring his Intention, was seconded by many young Noblemen, inasmuch that above fifty of the Flower of *Greece* gave in their Names to the Expedition. The chief of which; besides *Jason*, and *Hercules*, were *Orpheus*, who also writ an Account of it, *Oileus* Father of the younger *Ajax*, *Telamon* Father of the other *Ajax*, with his Brother *Peleus* Father of *Achilles*, both the Sons of *Æacus*, *Castor* and *Pollux* Sons of *Tyndareus*, King of *Sparta*, and *Argus* who built the Ship, which from him was call'd *Argo*, and his Companions *Argonautæ*. The Design of their Voyage

was to fetch back the *Golden Fleece*, as the Fable calls it, from *Æetes* King of *Colchos* in *Asia*, or in more plain terms to plunder him of some vast Treasure, which they had heard was in his Possession. Accordingly they set sail from a Bay in *Thessaly* near *Jolcus*, and having touched at *Lemnos*, and other Places, met with several fabulous Encounters in their Passage and Return, too many, and too incredible to enumerate. Such were the *Symplegades*, the *Sirens*, the *Harpies*, *Scylla* and *Charybdis*, which were disguis'd by *Orpheus* under poetical Morals, and seem to have been copied afterwards by *Homer* in his Travels of *Ulysses*. But being arriv'd at *Colchos*, by the Assistance of *Medea* the King's Daughter, who fell in love with *Jason*, they got the Treasure, and return'd home, taking *Medea* with them by way of Reprisal, (as they gave out) for *Io*, who was formerly stole from *Argos*. *Medea* was marry'd to *Jason*, and afterwards, upon his abandoning her, to *Ægeus* King of *Athens*; where her Skill in Magick and Witchcraft, and her many tragical Adventures, have furnish'd sufficient matter for the Stage.

To return to *Hercules*, his End is made to be of a piece with the most extravagant Scenes of his Life. His Applause in the World had gain'd him a sufficient number both of Wives and Mistresses; of whom the most noted were *Megara*, *Iole*, *Deiaineira*, and *Omphale*: And whether

whether he fell a Sacrifice to their jealous Resentment by Poison, or burnt himself in a fit of Phrenzy upon Mount *Oeta*, or what else became of him, more than that he dy'd, about the fifty second Year of his Age, is not easily determin'd. *Death of Hercules.*

*Eurystheus* continu'd his Resentment even after his Death, and express'd it to his Children, by commanding *Hyllus* and the rest, about sixty in number, as they grew up, to quit *Peloponnesus*. They not being in a capacity to resist him, betook themselves to *Athens*, where they were harbour'd and protected. *Eurystheus* finding them thus settled in a Body, and carrying it high upon their own Descent, and their Father's Merit, thought them still too near him; and therefore invaded *Attica*, with a design to extirpate them. But, by the Assistance of the *Athenians*, they made head against him, and slew both him and his Sons in the forty third Year of his Reign; and then in their turn invaded *Peloponnesus*. But the Plague raging there, and the Oracle attributing it to their coming before their time, they retir'd to *Marathon*. After three Years they made another Attempt: For so they interpreted the Oracle, which told 'em they must stay *Three Crops*, but by which was meant *Three Generations*. The Armies being about to engage, *Hyllus* would decide the Quarrel in his own Person, and was slain by *Echernus* King of *Tegea* in *Arcadia*, who accepted his Challenge. Whereupon the rest return'd, and were most of them in-

corporated with the *Dores* about *Oeta*, by the means of *Ægimius* their King, who had adopted *Hyllus*, in return of the Kindness he had receiv'd from *Hercules*, who had restor'd him to his Kingdom. After several fruitless Attempts made by them and their Posterity, they at last recover'd their ancient footing in these Parts. But this *Descent* of the *Heracidae* must be referred to its proper Place.

*Eurystheus*, upon his Expedition into *Attica*, had committed the Government of *Mycene* to his Uncle *Atreus* the Son of *Pelops*; who, upon his Nephew's Death, kept possession of it for himself: And hence the *Pelopidae* got the Ascendant over the *Perseides*, and became in effect masters of *Peloponnesus*. *Atreus* is thought to have reigned jointly with his Brother *Thyestes*: But this latter being taken in Adultery with his Wife *Aerope*, was banish'd; and when he was afterwards recall'd, *Atreus* kill'd his Children, and serv'd them up to him at Table; whence arose the Proverb of *Thyestes's Supper*. At the Horror of this Fact the Sun was said to go back; by which some understand *Atreus's* Skill in Astronomy, whereby he found out the Eclipse of the Sun, and the difference of its Motion from that of the starry Heaven. There is also another Brother mention'd by the Name of *Plis-*  
*Plisthenes*. *thenes*, Father of *Agamemnon* and *Menelaus*, who are therefore to be accounted only the adopted Sons of *Atreus*, to whose care they were committed.

mitted. But *Plishtenes* was rather the Son of *Atreus*; and if he succeeded him, (as it is probable he did) his Years may be comprehended under *Atreus* and *Thyestes*, to whom is assign'd a Reign of sixty five Years. However, it is certain *Agamemnon* succeeded as next Heir of the *Pelopidae*: who being a Prince of Prudence and Courage, obtain'd the Sovereignty not only of *Mycene* and *Argos*, but of all as far as *Sicyon* and *Corinth*, and the Country which was afterwards call'd *Achaia*. It was no small addition to his Titles to be chosen General of the Expedition against *Troy*; which happening at this time, must be more than barely mention'd, since it was an Action wherein all the Parts of *Greece* were almost equally concern'd.

The Destruction of *Troy* is one of the most famous *Epocha's* of Antiquity, being the first Term to which the *Grecian* Historians referr'd their most remarkable Transactions. It was this Enterprize that properly put an end to the *Infancy of Greece*, wherein she try'd her united Forces, and forewarn'd *Asia*, that she should one day submit to her Yoke. But before we proceed to Particulars, it will be necessary to premise something of the Certainty of this War, which is not so establish'd, but that several have call'd in question either the Whole, or the greatest Part of what the Ancients have left us concerning it. For some will not allow there ever were such Persons living as *Agamemnon*,

*The Kingdom, and War of Troy.*

*Achilles, Hector, Paris and Helena.* Others pretend to collect from ancient *Aegyptian* Monuments, that *Helena* was actually marry'd to *Paris* the Son of *Priam*; against whom the *Grecians*, out of a Motive of Jealousy, enter'd into a general Confederacy, and were worsted in several Conflicts, in one of which *Achilles* was slain by *Hector*.

It must be confess'd the *Grecians* were far from being exact in their Annals, from which Neglect, together with the additional Fictions of the Poets, by which they were adulterated, have proceeded so many different Accounts of their most noted Occurrences. But as the Ruins of *Troy* are undeniable Arguments of its former Greatness, they who reject the Story as fabulous, ascribe its Fall to Earthquakes and Inundations, and call the Elements to their Aid to maintain the Testimony of a certain *Aegyptian* Priest, in opposition to the common Consent both of *Greek* and *Latin* Historians. As to the *Historians* themselves, it must be own'd most of those whose Names are transmitted to Posterity, liv'd some Ages after the *Trojan* War: (For *Dares Phrygius*, and *Dicys Cretensis*, as they appear now in the World, can hardly be accounted genuine.) But it does not from thence follow, that they had no Authority but that of *Homer* for what they said. For neither was *Homer* the first and only Author, as (some will have it) who gave an Account of this Expedition, There are several recorded before him, from whom



whom undoubtedly he copy'd, as others did from him. And as some reject the whole Story, so others greedily catch at the least Remains of Antiquity. They fancy the *Ilias* a faithful, intire Narrative, and will rather take from the *Author* the Title of a *Poet*, than not put him in the same rank with solid *Historians*. There is certainly a *Medium* to be observ'd between these *Extremes*; of which *Homer* himself, as being the great Master, from whom we derive our Rules of Poetry, was sensible. He knew he might vary from the Truth as to *Particulars*, tho' not as to the *main Subject*; that he might adorn his Poem with *probable Falsities*, but that the *principal Action* ought always to have some real Foundation in History. How far he has observ'd this Rule, will better appear by taking a short Survey of the History of *Troy*, from the first Accounts we have of it.

What *Troy* was originally before *Teucer's* Teucer. time, and how long he reign'd there, we are not sufficiently inform'd. And therefore the Foundation of it is generally ascrib'd to *Darda-* Dardanus. *Dardanus* an *Arcadian*, who, with several of his Countrymen under his Conduct, coasting along *Europe*, touch'd at *Samothrace*, and from thence seated himself in *Phrygia* a Province of *Asia Minor*, where *Teucer* was King; who gave him his Daughter, and with her some Ground near the Sea, where he built the City, which, with the Territory, was from himself call'd *Dardania*.

Upon

Upon this account some fancy he reign'd jointly with his Father-in-law : But it is more certain he succeeded him in his whole Dominions, and the People before call'd *Teucris* were from him nam'd *Dardani*. Whatever the *Grecians* say of their *Trojan* Expedition, which they would have consider'd as a *Prelude* to their Conquests over the *Barbarians*, from hence it appears, that the *Trojans* were properly a *Grecian* Colony. Besides they had *Grecian* Names, worshipp'd the same Divinities; and *Homer* has left room to conjecture, that they spoke the same Language: Otherwise it is hard to conceive how a Poet us'd to be particular in the minutest Circumstances almost to trifling, should describe such frequent Conferences without ever employing an Interpreter between them. *Dardanus*, after a Reign of sixty five Years, left the Kingdom to his Son *Eriethonius*, who was reported to have been extremely rich and fortunate. He, after forty six Years, was succeeded by his Son *Tros*, from whom the Country took the Name of *Troas*, and the City, *Troja*. *Tros* had three Sons, *Ilus*, *Affaracus*, and *Ganymede*. From *Affaracus* is deriv'd the Pedigree of *Aeneas*. *Ganymede* was stole away by *Tantalus* Father of *Pelops*, and by consequence great Grandfather to *Agamemnon*; which being highly resent'd by his Brother *Ilus*, he drove *Tantalus* out of his Territories, and made him fly for Refuge into *Greece*, where with his Son *Pelops* (as was before hinted) he

Erietho-  
nius.

Tros.

His three  
Sons, Ilus,  
Affaracus,  
and Ga-  
nymede.

he laid the Foundation of the *Palopide*. This became the grounds of an hereditary Quarrel between the Families of *Priam* and *Agamemnon*; and was probably the chief, tho' not the common reputed cause of the *Trojan* War. For it seems to have been by way of Reprisal, that *Paris*, *Ilus's* great Grandson, stole away *Helen* from *Menelaus*, who was great Grandson to *Tantalus*. *Ilus*, after forty nine Years, succeeded *Ilus*. his Father *Tros*. Some ascribe to him the Foundation of the City, which from him was call'd *Ilium*, and was the constant *Grecian* Name, as *Troja* was the *Latin*. Others refer this Honour to *Tros*: but I rather close with those who give it to *Dardanus*, and believe the others only enlarg'd and beautify'd it, and chang'd the Name, *Ilus*, after forty Years, left the Kingdom to his Son *Laomedon*; who, by the Assistance of *Nep-* *Laomedon.* *tune* and *Apollo*, walled in the City, or, in other terms, rifled their Temples to defray the Expence: For which piece of Sacrilege, and not making Restitution, the Oracle told him, there was no other way of appeasing the Gods, but by exposing a *Trojan* Virgin to be devour'd by a Sea-monster. The Lot fell upon his own Daughter *Hesione*; who was rescu'd by *Hercules*, and the Monster was kill'd. But *Laomedon*, who was noted for Perjury, denying the Reward he had promis'd for this Service, *Hercules* laid siege to the City, took and plunder'd it, kill'd *Laomedon*, and took his Son *Podarces* Prisoner, who was

was afterwards redeem'd by the *Trojans*, and from thence had the Name of *Priamus*. Some make *Priam* rather assisting to *Hercules* than otherwise; and that for his Integrity and Justice, he was plac'd by him in his Father's Throne, after a Reign of forty four Years. *Priam* had a large extent of Dominion, reaching from *Tenedos* to the Upper *Pbrygia*, containing nine Provinces, with a proportionable number of Towns. He rebuilt the City and the Walls, and made it more defensible with Forts and Bastions, which from thence took the Name of *Pergama*. His Court was full of Pomp and Splendor; and thus for many Years he enjoy'd an uninterrupted Scene of Prosperity. To add to which, he had a numerous Issue of fifty Sons, great part of them legitimate by *Hecuba* his second Wife. She dreamt, when she was big with *Paris*, that she should be deliver'd of a Fire-brand, which should reduce the City to Ashes. Whereupon *Priam* expos'd the Infant upon Mount *Ida*: But by his Mother's Care and Compassion, he was brought up among the Shepherds; and from signalizing himself in their behalf against the Robbers of those Times, obtain'd the Name of *Alexander*. Being grown up, whether his generous Qualities betray'd his Birth, or whether it was by his Mother's Contrivance, who had manag'd the Secret, he was made known to his Father, and receiv'd with a great deal of Satisfaction. Soon after he sail'd into Greece,

*His Son  
Paris.*

*Greece*, under a Pretence of demanding his Aunt *Hefione*, carried away by *Hercules*, and married to *Telamon* the Father of *Ajax*; but (as the Event shew'd) with a Design upon *Helena*, the Wife of *Menelaus* King of *Sparta*. Yet 'tis probable, he had no further Intent than most of the young active Heroes of these times, when they went in search of foreign Adventures. Such seems to be his Arrival at *Sparta*, where he was receiv'd by *Menelaus* with all the Expressions of Kindness and Civility. He soon fell in league with *Helena* his Wife, and carried her away with him, but (as most of the Rapes of Antiquity <sup>Rape of</sup> were) with her own Consent. I have mention'd <sup>Helen.</sup> several old Grudges between the *Grecians* and *Asiaticks*, with whom the *Trojans* generally sided, as being their Neighbours. So that whatever *Paris*'s Intentions at first were, he was certainly glad of this opportunity of gratifying his Love, and revenging the Quarrels of his Country and Family. For fear of being pursu'd, he carry'd her first to *Sidon* in *Phœnicia*, where some say they were marry'd, and from thence to *Troy*; where they were no sooner arriv'd, but *Sparta* was in an uproar, and *Greece* in general immediately took the Alarm. For *Menelaus* his Resentment was soon seconded by his Brother *Agamemnon*, who bearing the chief Sway in *Peloponnesus*, us'd his utmost Efforts to engage all the Princes of *Greece*, and make it a national Quarrel. And one Reason why he succeeded so easily in this Design was,

was, that *Helen* being the fam'd *Beauty* of those Times, her Father *Tyndareus* had made it a condition to the young Princes who address'd her, that wherever she should fix her choice, they should all in general oblige themselves by Oath, in case she was stole, to assist in her Recovery.

Accordingly *Agamemnon* assembled most of the noted Captains at *Ægium* a Town in *Acbaia*, to concert Measures for carrying on the War, where they chose him their General; and, pursuant to this Agreement, they met afterwards, with their respective Quota's of Men and Ships, at *Aulis* a Sea-port of *Boeotia*; where they took an Oath not to return, 'till they had either re-

cover'd *Helen*, or taken *Troy*. Under *Agamemnon*,  
 Commanders of the Grecian Forces. who commanded in chief, the Spartans were headed by his Brother *Menelaus*; the Argives by *Diomedes*, *Sthenelus*, and *Euryalus*; the Messenians by *Nestor*, who by his mature Counsel and Experience made sufficient amends for the other Infirmities of his Age; the Arcadians by *Agapenor*; the Eleans by *Polynemus*, *Amphimachus*, *Phalpius*, and *Diores*, who were Partners in the Kingdom. As for the States without the *Isthmus*, the Athenians were under the Conduct of *Menestheus* their King; the Megarensians, with the Island *Salamis*, under *Ajax* the Son of *Telamon*; the Phocians under *Schedius* and *Epistrophus*, the Sons of *Iphitus* the Argonaut; the Ætolians under *Thoas*; *Dulichium*, with the Isles of *Echinades*, under

der *Mages*; the *Cephallemians*, *Zacynthians* and the Inhabitants of *Ithaca* under *Ulysses*. The *Bœotian* Forces had also five Commanders, *Leitus*, *Arcefilans*, *Protboëus*, *Clonius*, and *Terfander* the Son of *Polynices* King of *Thebes*; which latter being kill'd in *Mythra* had his Place supply'd by *Peneleus*. The *Orchomenians* were commanded by two Brothers, *Ascalaphus* and *Jalmenus*; the *Locri*, *Opuntii* and *Epimenidii* by the younger *Ajan* the Son of *Oilcus*; and the *Eubœans*, under the Name of the *Abantes*, by *Elephenor*. Out of the Country which was then called *Pibiotis*, and afterwards *Theffaly*, *Achilles* with his Friend *Patroclus* brought the *Myrmidones*, *Achæi* and *Hellenes*; which latter Name, I observ'd, had not yet universally obtain'd in *Greece*. *Protesilaus* the Son of *Iphiclus*, *Philoctetes* of *Pæan*, *Podalirius*, and *Macbaon* of *Æsculapius*, *Eumelas*, *Euripylus*, *Polypatos*, and *Leonteus* brought in their several Parties out of the Neighbourhood, with *Guneus* who commanded the *Ænians*, and *Peribabiz*, and *Proibous*, the *Magnetes*. There are also mention'd *Idomeneus*, and *Meriones*, as Commanders of the *Cretan* Forces; and *Polepolemus* the Son of *Hercules*, of the *Rhodian*. From *Syme* came *Nitus*; from *Cos*, *Carpatbus*, and other neighbouring Isles, *Phidippus* and *Antipbus* of the Posterity of *Hercules*. So that the *Acarnanians* were the only People of note, who did not appear in this general Expedition. What number these Forces amounted to, will best appear from the  
number

*Number of the Men and Ships.* number of their Ships, which by some are computed at a thousand, but more generally by others at twelve hundred; whereof the largest carry'd an hundred and twenty Men, and the least fifty, who were both Soldiers and Mariners. And by a middle Computation between these Extremes, the number of Men transported in them will amount to about an hundred thousand; which was not reckon'd such a vast number to be collected throughout the whole Body of *Greece*: But they wanted Mony and Provisions more than Men, having already more than they could subsist. For their Ships being small, and without Decks, such as the Pirates us'd, they could carry very little Provision with them.

*They embark at Aulis.*

In this condition they embark'd at *Aulis*, touch'd at *Lemnos*, and from thence were driven by mistake into *Mysia*; where making Incurfions into the Country, *Telephes* the Prince made head against them, and repuls'd them with the loss of *Tberfander* the *Bæotian* General. There happen'd a Conflict immediately upon their Arrival at *Troy*; wherein *Protesilaus*, and several others were slain, with little loss on the *Trojans* side. The *Grecians* found, by this warm Reception, what they were to expect; and having by their numbers gain'd Ground enough to encamp, sent *Menelaus* and *Ulysses* by way of Embassy to demand *Helen*. The Business was debated in Council; where *Antenor* and most of the grave Members were for delivering her up; but *Priam*, tho' otherwise prudent

*The first Conflict upon their Arrival.*



dent enough, yet out of Indulgence to his Son, rather clos'd with the other part of the Council; and rejecting the Demand, dismiss'd the Ambassadors.

This Aggravation confirm'd both Parties in their Preparations for War; and in the next Engagement the *Trojans* were worsted. After which the *Grecians* were forc'd through Scarcity of Provisions to divide their Army; one part being employ'd in tilling the *Cbersonefe*; and another sent, for the immediate Relief of the Camp, to scour the Seas; and indeed Piracy in those days was more frequent, and more allowable than afterwards: Others were left to live at discretion, by spoiling and ravaging the Country. These prov'd such favourable Diversions to the *Trojans*, as gave them time not only to strengthen their Alliances with their Neighbours in *Pbrygia*, *Lycia*, *Myfia*, and most parts of the *Lesser Asia*, but also to form new ones with foreign Princes, who sent them considerable Reinforcements. The *Grecians* had no more Men upon the spot, than would serve to annoy the Town, and secure themselves, *Achilles* being sent with a great Detachment to harass the Country, and cut off Provisions from the City. Wherein he succeeded so well, that he took twenty three Towns, and in them a great deal of Booty; upon the Division whereof he was highly disgusted, because he had taken the greatest part of it himself. He had taken with

V O L. I.

E

him

Palamedes him *Palamedes*; who as he was carrying on the War in *Lesbos*, was traduc'd by the false Suggestions of *Ulysses*, and ston'd in the Camp as a Traitor. The truth is, he had deserv'd very well of the Army for his Courage, Wisdom, and Learning; and the Envy of *Ulysses* was the chief grounds of their Quarrel. To *Palamedes* are ascrib'd sixteen Letters of the *Greek Alphabet*, or rather four, which he added to the sixteen before invented by *Cadmus*; as also the ordering and ranking of an Army, (tho' this was in a great measure owing to *Menestheus*) with the Watch-word, and several sorts of Games to divert the Soldiers. His Death was highly resent-ed by the elder *Ajax*, and more particularly by *Achilles*, who for this, and his small share in the Booty, would not in a great while be persuaded to prosecute the War; which seems a more probable Cause for his Anger, than what the *Poet* assigns of *Agamemnon's* taking his Mistress from him.

To relate all the Particulars of this War would be tedious, and perhaps not warrantable. For what the first nine Years produc'd, amounted to no more than Sallies and Skirmishes, wherein the Town could not suffer extremely, being at first well provided with Necessaries, having equal Numbers to pour out upon those who were before it, and a safe Retreat upon any Miscarriage. So that most agree there was no considerable Action from the first Year to the tenth;  
and

and *Herodotus's* Opinion is very probable, that the *Grecians* did not lie before the Town the first nine Years; but that the *Trojan* Dominions consisting of nine large Principalities, they found Employment enough to beat up and down the Country, spoiling and plundering all before them, 'till at last they came of course to block up their capital City; which has questionless introduc'd the Mistake of converting this War, which lasted in all ten Years, into a *Decennial Siege*.

It is certain, that in the Beginning of the Summer in which *Troy* was taken, the *Grecians* presented themselves in a Body before the Town. The Besieg'd were easily drawn out, as being little inferior to them either in Numbers or Commanders; the chief of which were *Hector*, Account of the Trojan Forces. *Paris*, *Deiphobus*, *Helenus*, and the other Sons of *Priam*; *Æneas*, *Antenor*, and his Sons; *Polydamus* and *Euphorbus*, the Sons of *Pantbus*; *Sarpedon* King of *Lycia*; *Glaucus*, and *Afius*; besides foreign Recruits under *Rhesus*, *Memnon*, and others, who came towards the end of the War. Upon *Hector's* appearing without the Walls, things seem'd to tend to a decisive Battle; but there were several fought with various Success, the greatest of which was that upon the Plain at King *Ilus's* Tomb; and another at the very Camp of the *Grecians*, wherein *Hector* broke through their Intrenchments, and began to fire their Ships. A great Battle at King Ilus's Tomb. The *Grecian* Captains were Another in the Grecian Camp.

most of them wounded, except *Ajax* and his Brother *Teucer*; and their Case was almost desperate, when *Patroclus* with much difficulty obtain'd leave of his Friend *Achilles* to march with his *Myrmidons* to their Relief. By the Assistance of these Troops (which *Achilles* had kept more out of a pique than for a Reserve) the *Grecians* rally'd, and after a sharp Engagement repuls'd the *Trojans*. *Patroclus* had kill'd *Sarpedon* and others, and was in pursuit of *Hector*, when *Euphorbus* came behind and wounded him, and *Hector* turn'd and accomplish'd his Death. *Euphorbus* was also kill'd by *Menelaus*; and this is he, whose Soul *Pythagoras* affirm'd, according to his Notion of *Transmigration*, to have pass'd into his own Body. *Achilles* was rous'd at the Death of his Friend, and laying aside all private Quarrels and Resentment against the Generals, resolv'd to push on for Conquest and Revenge. Accordingly he renew'd the Fight, and took twelve young Men, whom, as a Victim to *Patroclus*, he kill'd at his Funeral: He then singled out *Hector*, slew him, and dragg'd his Body in Triumph at his Chariot-Wheels, 'till it was ransom'd by *Priam*. His Death was accompany'd with that of *Memnon*, *Troilus*, and others; but was soon after revenged by *Paris*, who slew *Achilles*, by some treacherous Stratagem. What way he effected it, I had rather leave undetermin'd, than take up with the Poet's Account of it; who, to work up Love enough in his

*Patroclus*  
kill'd:

*Alc*  
*Hector*.

*Achilles*,

his Hero's Character, gives him a view of *Polyxena*, *Priam's* Daughter, from the Walls; upon which he falls violently in love, and proceeds to Marriage; at which Solemnity he was shot with a Dart by *Paris*, who lay conceal'd behind an Image in the Temple. But the Incendiary himself was afterwards slain by *Philoctetes*, and *Helen* given to his Brother *Deiphobus*.

The *Trojans*, tho' they had lost their chief Supports, still plac'd a great Confidence in their *Palladium*. They had been told the City would never be taken, so long as that Image of *Minerva* was in it; and had the same superstitious opinion of it, that the *Romans* afterwards had of their *Ancile* in the time of *Numa Pompilius*, which, like that, was pretended to have dropt from the Gods as a Pledge of their Favour. But the fatal time approaching, the *Palladium* was stole; and the City either betray'd by *Antenor* and *Aeneas*, or taken (as others will have it) by the Stratagem of the *Wooden Horse*. But to consider this Horse in the manner it is describ'd, cramm'd with Men in Ambush, and those the chief Officers in the Army, must argue very odd Management on both Sides, either that the *Grecians* should expose themselves, or the *Trojans* admit them; and seems even in Poetry rather an Extravagance, than an Ornament. Perhaps this was the *Battering Ram*, which the *Romans* afterwards made use of, and deriv'd from *Greece*.

*Pliny* fixes the time of its Invention to the *Trojan War*, and says it gave occasion to the Story of the *Wooden Horse*. Which looks the more probable, because it was the constant Practice of those Times to wrap up the Original of every Invention in Fables: The Reason of which might be, that the *Grecians* generally fetch'd their Knowledge out of the *East*, and being thus disguis'd, it pass'd more easily for their own. But whatever Image it bore, *Pausanias* says plainly it was a sort of Battering Engine erected by one *Epeus*, and that a Pattern of it stood in the Castle of *Athens*. This they employ'd against the Walls, and made a considerable Breach, by which the whole *Grecian* Army enter'd in the Night, and dispersing themselves into every Quarter of the Town, it was taken, plunder'd and burnt. *Priam*, with great part of his Family, and the Inhabitants in general were barbarously murder'd, without respect to Age, Quality, or the Places where they had taken Sanctuary. *Antenor* and *Aeneas* were excepted out of this general Massacre; which seems to confirm their having corresponded with the Enemy, to let the Town be surpris'd.

Thus fell *Troy*, no less famous to Posterity for having been the *Grecians* first great Scene of Action, than that it withstood their united Power so long; and so far happy in its Fall, in having given birth to the two best Poems that the World ever yet produc'd, and in them to survive

Troy  
taken.

A. M.  
2820.

vive its own latest Ruins. There is another Honour paid to it by Posterity, in that most Nations have express'd a particular Vanity in bringing their Descent from the scatter'd Remains of the *Trojans*. But those who had most colour for their Pretensions were the *Romans*, who were first the *Albans*, seated in *Italy* by *Aeneas*; the *Venetians* by *Antenor*, who came with the *Heneti* into the *Adriatick* Sea, and built *Padua*; and the *Chaonians* planted in *Epirus* by *Helenus* Priam's Son. With the City fell the Kingdom, in the 2820th Year of the World, and 408 before the *Olympiads*, after it had flourish'd from its Founder *Dardanus* to *Priam*, in a regular Succession from Father to Son, the space of 296 Years.

Whatever *Troy* suffer'd, the *Grecians* had no great reason to boast of their Conquest. They had lost a sufficient Share in the Field; the rest were harass'd and broke with the Fatigues of a long War, and expos'd to all the Miseries of Storm and Shipwreck in their Return; which is attributed to the Impatience of *Menelaus*, who having recover'd *Helen*, was immediately for putting to Sea; upon which the Fleet was dispers'd, some drown'd, others driven upon foreign Coasts, and even those few who arriv'd safe, met with such Disorders in their Family, such Factions and Innovations in their Governments, that they were either murder'd at home, or forc'd to fly for Refuge. So that the Wives and Mistresses

of the *Grecian* Captains dated their Miseries from this War; and could not mention *Troy* without Detestation.

*Agamemnon*, immediately upon his Return from *Troy*, in the fifteenth Year of his Reign, was murder'd by *Ægisthus* Son of *Thyestes*, and his own Wife *Clytemnestra*, who during his Absence had liv'd together in Adultery. It is natural to believe what is not generally assented to, *Egisthus.* that *Ægisthus* afterwards usurp'd the Kingdom, *Orestes.* and enjoy'd it for seven Years, 'till *Orestes* the Son of *Agamemnon* return'd from *Phocis*, whither he had been convey'd for fear of him, and slew both *Ægisthus* and his Mother *Clytemnestra*, with a Daughter by them call'd *Helena*; by which means he recover'd his Father's Dominions, tho' not without some Opposition of the *Argives*. The Story of his being tormented by the *Furies* relates to his Remorse of Conscience for having kill'd his Mother; for which Fact some say he was formally try'd and acquitted in the Court of *Areopagus* at *Athens*, the Suffrages for and against him being equal; in which case Judgment always pass'd in favour of the Defendent. This and other expiatory Acts of his put an end to that continued Scene of Adultery, Incest and Murder, which had hitherto reign'd in his Family; and he afterwards enjoy'd a long Reign with a great extent of Dominion. It has been before insinuated, that *Argos* had its Kings after *Acrisus*; but they were



were no better than a sort of Viceroys, who held immediately of the Kings of *Mycenæ*. But *Orestes*, by the Assistance of the *Phocians* who were his constant Friends, made himself more entirely master of *Argos* than his Father, or any of his Predecessors: And hence that Kingdom was thought to be re-united about a hundred and forty Years after the threefold Division made between *Anaxagoras*, *Melampus*, and *Bias*. Besides this, he had an Accession of the Kingdom of *Sparta*, upon the Death of his Uncle *Menelaus*, whose Daughter *Hermione* he had marry'd, being receiv'd by the *Lacedæmonians*, for want of other lawful Issue, as the Grandson of *Tyndareus* by *Chytemnestra*. He had also got possession of the greatest part of *Arcadia* next to *Argos*, upon a vacancy in the Throne, and dy'd there after a Reign of seventy Years. Some ascribe to him the planting a Colony of the *Æolians* in *Asia*. But his Son *Pentbilus* was rather Author of this Expedition; and yet he only attempted it by carrying them into *Thrace*, and from thence to *Lesbos*, upon the Descent of the *Heraclidæ*; and by his Grandchildren it was, that they were actually seated in *Asia*. *Orestes* left two Sons, *Tisamenus* by *Hermione*, and *Pentbilus* by *Erigone* Daughter of *Ægisthus*. There is a Contest which of them succeeded, or whether both reign'd together: But we have most reason to believe the Kingdom fell to *Tisamenus*, as being legitimate: He had

To *Mycenæ*  
be adds  
*Argos*,  
*Sparta*,  
and part  
of *Arcadia*.

The *Æoli-*  
ans planted  
in *Asia*.

*Tisame-*  
nus.  
not

not enjoy'd it three Years before the *Heraclidæ* displac'd him.

*Aristomachus* great Grandson of *Hercules* left three Sons, *Temenus*, *Cresphontes* and *Aristodemus*; who being now thoroughly encourag'd and instructed by the Oracle, both as to the Time and Place of their Descent, gave out they would march through the *Isthmus*, as their Ancestors had done; by which Feint having drawn down the *Peloponnesians* to guard that Pass, they cross'd the Sea under the Conduct of one *Oxylus* an *Ætolian* descended of *Tboas*, who went to the Siege of *Troy*, and landed at *Molyerium* with little

*Descent of  
the Hera-  
clidæ.*

A. M. 2900. being the next Action to it that affected *Greece* in general, and more particularly chang'd the

Face of Affairs in *Peloponnesus*. For they challeng'd *Argos* as their Birth-right, being the next Heirs of the *Perseides*; which falling to *Temenus* by Lot. (for that was the way of dividing their Conquests) he took it with some difficulty, and with it a Village in the Confines, which he fortify'd as a place of Retreat for carrying on the War. Their Pretensions to *Lacedæmon* were grounded upon *Hercules's* having restor'd *Tyndareus* to the Kingdom, upon condition that he should reserve the Succession for his Children. Accordingly *Sparta* was betray'd into their hands by one *Pbilonomus*, and fell to *Aristodemus*, or rather to his two Sons *Eury-  
sthenes*

*Division  
of their  
Conquests.*

*Agamemnon* and *Procles*, upon their Father's Death. They had as good a Claim to *Messenia*, *Hercules* having destroy'd the City *Pylus*, and conquer'd the Country, and afterwards given the Kingdom to *Nestor*, upon the same Terms that he gave *Sparta* to *Tyndareus*. This fell to *Cresphontes* by a Trick in the Lot; who, ingratiating himself too much with the People, incurr'd the Hatred of the Nobility, and was murder'd with two of his Sons. His youngest Son *Æpytus* escap'd, and reveng'd his Father by the Death of *Polyphontes* the Usurper: By which means recovering the Crown, he left a Succession of seven Kings by the Name of the *Æpytide*, who continu'd 'till near the Overthrow of that Kingdom by the *Spartans*. Then, according to their Promise, they put their Captain *Oxylus* in possession of *Elis*; from whom descended *Iphitus*, who instituted the *Olympick Games*. They had also reserv'd *Corinth* for *Aletes*, one of their Kinsmen, Son of *Hippotes*; who soon after took possession, and was succeeded by his Posterity for above three hundred Years. Thus were they seated in all Parts of the Peninsula, except *Arcadia*, (whose King *Cypselus* was secur'd by marrying his Daughter *Merope* to *Cresphontes*) and continu'd their Sovereignty in most Places 'till the Conquest of the *Macedonians*. The *Achæans*, originally of *Thebes*—*The Achæi* *saty*, being descended of *Achæus* the Brother of *remov'd*.  
*Ion*, were now Inhabitants of *Argos* and *Lacedæmon*;

*dæmon*; who being expell'd these Parts, sent to the *Ionians* their Neighbours and Kinsmen to admit them; and upon their Denial, were headed by *Tisamenus*, whom they lost in the Conflict, but however drove them into *Attica*, and seated themselves in their room. *Polybius* makes *Tisamenus* to have reigned in *Greece* after this, and to have been succeeded by several of his Posterity. However, it is certain the *Heraclidae* put an end to the flourishing State of the *Pelopidae*, after they had sway'd the Affairs of *Argos*, and *Mycenæ*, about a hundred and sixty Years.

**Temenus.** *Temenus*, whom we left in possession of *Argos*, had marry'd his Daughter to *Deiphontes* his Kinsman, who became a mighty Favourite both of King and People; insomuch that the Sons of *Temenus* grew jealous, lest the Kingdom should be transferr'd to him, and therefore made away with their Father. Notwithstanding this Murder, and the strong Party for *Deiphontes*, *Pausanias* says he was succeeded by his eldest Son *Cifus*, whose Reign, with that of his Father, made up forty Years. The *Argives*, who had always express'd a strong Inclination to Liberty, took occasion upon his Death to deprive his Successors of all Marks of Regal Authority, leaving them nothing but the Title: So that from hence we may properly date the Fall of the Kingdom of *Argos*, after it had continu'd together with that of *Mycenæ*, about eight hundred Years, from the beginning of *Inachus*.

*Cifus the  
last King  
in effect.*

To

To avoid the Inconveniencies of a sudden Change, there was still a Succession of titular Kings: But they were so cramp'd in their Power, that they could act nothing of themselves; and therefore we find little mention made of them. The last who bore that Name was *Meltas*, the *Meltas the last titular King.* Son of *Lacidaus*; who being somewhat impetuous, and exerting himself beyond his Predecessors, they first depriv'd him of all the Power he had resum'd, and then condemn'd him to Death; by which means they destroy'd all the Marks of Sovereignty, and suffer'd none afterwards to reign amongst them. For by what *Herodotus* mentions after this of a King of *Argos*, is meant no more *Argos a Democracy.* than in the Commonwealths of *Athens*, *Carthage* and *Rome*, where his Name was apply'd to some particular Officers in the State. So that we must from this time look upon *Argos* as a settled Commonwealth; tho' as to its Constitution we have little more left of the ancient Accounts of it, than to assure us it was in the nature of a *Democracy*, the People being divided into four *Tribes*, in subordination to whom they had a Senate chosen annually, to which belong'd the executive Power, but of no further use, unless to prepare Matters for the whole Body, with Authority to enact things of lesser consequence. They had also a Council of State consisting of eighty Persons, besides Judges for determining of Causes, with other inferior Magistrates in the City. In this State the *Argives* flourish'd for many Ages, and became famous

mous for their Contests with the *Lacedæmonians* about the Territories of *Thyrea*. But that which rais'd, or at least fomented these Differences, was a secret Emulation and Distaste of each others Government. For the *Lacedæmonians*, who valued themselves upon their *Oligarchy*, as the best Constitution of any in *Greece*, were constantly endeavouring to reduce their Neighbours to the same Model.



## C H A P. III.

*The Kingdom and Commonwealth of  
Lacedæmon, to the end of the  
Messenian Wars.*

*Containing the Space of about 800 Years.*

OF all the Traditions concerning the Foundation of this Kingdom, none has been more generally receiv'd, than that *Lelex* first reign'd in *Laconia*, near the 2500th Year of the World, calling his Subjects from himself, *Leleges*, and the Country, *Lelegia*. He left two Sons, *Myles*, and *Polycaon*; the former of which succeeded him in his Kingdom; and is reputed the first among the *Grecians*, who set up a Quern, or Hand-mill to grind Corn. The latter marrying *Messene*, the Daughter of *Triopas* King of *Argos*, possess'd himself of that Country, which from her he nam'd *Messenia*. *Eurotas* and *Cleson* are

are also mention'd as the Sons of *Lelex*; but the former is more generally said to have been the Son of *Myles*, and to have succeeded him, and to have built the City, which he called *Sparta*, after the Name of his Daughter. He pass'd with some only for a River, because he cut a large Channel to drain the Country, which being swell'd with Springs, and continuing its course to the Sea, came to be a River bearing his Name. After him, for want of Male-Issue, the Crown devolv'd upon *Lacedæmon*, who had marry'd his Lacedæmon. Daughter *Sparte*. As the City had, in compliment to his Wife, been call'd by her Name, so the Country about it went by his own. But tho' in strict propriety of Speech, this difference was made between *Lacedæmon* and *Sparta*, in process of time the Distinction fell, and both Appellations were us'd promiscuously to express the City and Country. *Lacedæmon* was succeeded by his Son *Amyclas*; who had three Sons, *Argalus*, Amyclas. *Cynortas*, and *Hyacinthus*, which last the Poets turn'd into a *Violet*, being kill'd accidentally by *Apollo*. *Argalus* succeeded his Father, and left *Argalus*. the Kingdom to his Brother *Cynortas*; and he to *Cynortas*. his Son *Oebalus*, from whom the Country went some time by the Name of *Oebalia*. *Oebalus* Oebalus. by his first Wife had *Hippocoon*, and by *Gorgophone* the Daughter of *Perseus* his second, *Tyndareus*. These two disputed the Succession; but *Tyndareus* was forc'd to quit his Pretensions, 'till *Hercules* made way for him with the Slaughter of  
*Hip.*

Hippo-  
coon.  
Tynda-  
reus.

*Hippocoon*, and his ten Sons, as has been shewn in the History of *Argos*. The Wife of *Tyndareus* was the famous *Leda*, on whom *Jupiter* was said to have begot *Castor* and *Pollux*, from thence call'd *Dioscuri*; unless they rather acquir'd that Name from the Fame of their Exploits, being mention'd as Sharers in most of the generous Enterprises of those times, insomuch that they were deify'd after their Death, giving name to the *Constellation* of *Gemini*; and *Rome* as well as *Greece* express'd a particular Veneration for them, ascribing some of its most signal Victories to their immediate Assistance. *Tyndareus* had also two Daughters, who made no less noise in the World, *Clytemnestra* marry'd to *Agamemnon*, and *Helena* to his Brother *Menelaus*, after she had been first stole by *Theseus*: But for the Particulars of her, and her Husband's Story, I must refer the Reader to the Account of the *Trojan War*. Her two Brothers dying before their Father, *Menelaus* succeeded *Tyndareus* in right of his Wife. In his Return from *Troy*, he escap'd as well as most of the *Grecian* Captains; but lost great part of his Ships in a Storm, and was himself driven with his Wife into *Ægypt*, where some say he wander'd above seven Years before he return'd to *Sparta*. As to his *Ægyptian* Voyage, *Herodotus* is positive, that he went thither to fetch his Wife, whom he makes to have been detain'd there during the whole War; and insinuates, that if she had been at *Troy*, *Priam* would



would rather have given her up, than expos'd his Family and Kingdom to such a train of Miseries, by supporting his Son *Paris* in the Possession of another Man's Right, especially since he was not immediate Heir to the Crown, nor of equal Merit with several of his Brothers. He had by *Helen* only a Daughter nam'd *Hermione*, whom he married to *Orestes* the Son of *Agamemnon*; and taking her from him, gave her again to *Pyrrhus* the Son of *Achilles*. But *Pyrrhus* was kill'd, and 'tis thought by *Orestes* his means, because immediately upon his Death he resum'd his Wife. And upon the Death of *Menelaus*, the *Orestes*. *Lacedaemonians* chose rather to accept of him as the Grandson of *Tyndareus* by *Clytemnestra*, tho' he was before possess'd of *Mycene* and *Argos*, than of *Nicostratus* and *Megapenthes*, the two bastard Sons of *Menelaus*. *Orestes* enjoy'd a long Reign, and was succeeded in all his Kingdoms by his Son *Tisamenus*, who was soon expell'd by the *Tisamenus* *Heraclide*; whose *Descent* is more fully describ'd, where we had first occasion to mention it.

This Change put an end to the first State of *Lacedaemon*, wherein nothing happen'd very remarkable; neither have we sufficient Authority to assign the Duration, with the other Particulars of each King's Reign: Insomuch that some *Chronologers* pass by this whole Succession, beginning their Accounts from the *Descent* of the *Heraclide*. But it fares with States as it does with Men; the Actions of their Infancy are

*The first  
State of  
Lacedæ-  
mon under  
thirteen  
Kings.*

generally too trifling to be recorded; and the Memory of the first Kings is so easily eclips'd by the Fame of their Successors, that we can expect little more than their Names, and for the same Reasons even they are not always handed down faithfully to Posterity. But upon the whole we may allow of this Race of thirteen Kings, of which the three last were of the *Pelopidae*: They completed among them a Term of about four hundred Years: And tho' there were no fixt Laws to limit the Prerogative, it does not appear that there were any considerable Encroachments made either on the Kings, or the Peoples side.

*The second  
State under  
the Hera-  
clidae.*

A. M.  
2900.

The Government which had hitherto been Monarchical, must now pass under the Name of a *Dyarchy*: Which Change seems to have been accidental, or rather out of an Accident improv'd into a Design of settling two Kings at the same time upon the Throne. For *Aristodemus* one of the Brothers of the *Heraclidae*, dying as they were preparing for the Expedition, *Lacedæmon* was however allotted to his Family. He left two Sons, *Eurysthene*s and *Procles*, Twins, and so alike, that it was hardly possible to distinguish 'em enough to know upon which to fix the Crown. From hence 'tis probable, their Mother took the hint of turning it to the Advantage of both her Sons; so that when the *Spartans* came to her to decide the Controversy, she pretended not to know which was the Elder; and the Oracle at the same time favouring the

the Project, they were both declar'd Kings of *Eurysthenes and Procles* *Sparta* with equal Power, but with some degree of Preference in point of Honour to the Family of *Eurysthenes*. Their Uncle *Theras* was appointed *Prodicus*, or Protector during their Minority: And his Regency being expir'd, he planted a Colony in *Calliste*, an Island in the *Ægean* Sea, better known afterwards from him by the Name of *Tbera*. The Brothers being of age began to look upon one another as Rivals in Empire: And it is not so much a Wonder, that this should breed a secret Distaste and Enmity between 'em, as that it should be propagated down to their latest Posterity, and yet never break out for above eight hundred Years, so as to dissolve the Constitution. The Brothers were succeeded by their two Sons, *Eurysthenes* by *Agis*, and *Procles* by *Sous*. To their Time *Agis, and Sous* we may refer the Original of Slavery in *Sparta*. For *Eurysthenes* and *Procles* having, upon a general Survey and Division of the Country, granted to it the same Privileges and Immunities which belong'd to the City, *Agis* revers'd what his Predecessors had done in favour of the Country, and impos'd a Tribute: To which all Parts having submitted, except the Inhabitants of *Helos*, he made 'em Prisoners of War; took away all the Privileges they enjoy'd as Members of the State, and condemn'd both them and their Posterity to perpetual Slavery. To make them yet a more standing Mark of Infamy;

*The Original of the Helotæ, or Spartan Slaves.*

Infamy, all other Slaves to the State went by the common Name of *Helotæ*; as the word *Slave* is us'd in most Countries, and deriv'd from the *Sclavi* or *Sclavonians* upon a like Occasion. *Sous* endeavouring to make himself as formidable abroad, as *Agis* was at home, reduc'd great part of *Arcadia*. *Plutarch* has a remarkable Passage of him, that being besieg'd by the *Cli-torians*, and mightily press'd for want of Water, he agreed to deliver up all his Conquests to them, upon condition that he and all his Men should drink of a Spring near his Camp. To evade the Force of this Contract, he offer'd the Kingdom to any one of his Soldiers who would forbear drinking: But they having all rejected the Proposal, he came last himself to the Water, and having only sprinkled his Face without swallowing a Drop, march'd off in the Face of the Enemy, and refus'd to restore his Conquests. *Echestratus* succeeded next in the Line of the *Eurysthenidæ*, and *Eurytion* or *Euryphon*, some Years after, in that of the *Proclidæ*. It does not appear, that there had yet been any Abatement of that absolute Power which the former Kings enjoy'd, 'till this *Eurytion* affecting Popularity, flatter'd and cajol'd his Subjects, and so slacken'd the Reins, that the People made daily Incroachments upon him, and took such advantage of the Easiness or Necessities of his Successors, that it brought the Government into Contempt, and the whole Kingdom into Confusion.

*Echestratus and Eurytion.*

Confusion. After these came *Labotas* and *Pry-*<sup>Labotas and Pry-</sup>  
*tanis*, in whose Reigns happen'd the first Dis-<sup>tanis.</sup>  
pute between the *Lacedæmonians* and *Argives*;  
but it was not carry'd far enough to produce any  
memorable Action. *Doryssus* and *Eunomus* were<sup>Doryssus and Euno-</sup>  
the next, who continu'd the Succession of their<sup>mus.</sup>  
Families. *Agessilaus* succeeded *Doryssus*, *Eunomus*<sup>Agessilaus and Poly-</sup>  
still reigning, 'till at last he was barbarously<sup>desces.</sup>  
butcher'd in a popular Tumult. He left two  
Sons, *Polydesces* and *Lycurgus* by two Wives:  
The former of which succeeded him, accom-  
pany'd by *Archelaus* of the *Eurysthenidæ*; and  
dying without Issue, the Right of Succession  
rested in his Brother *Lycurgus*, who accordingly  
took the Administration upon him. But the  
Queen his Sister-in-law proving with child,  
and having made an Overture to him, that she  
would destroy the Birth upon condition he  
would marry her, he wisely smother'd his Re-  
sentment of so unnatural a Proposal, express'd  
abundance of Joy and Thanks, but withal begg'd  
of her not to practise upon herself to the en-  
dangering her Health; for that as soon as the  
Child was born, he would take care to remove  
it out of the way. Accordingly she was de-  
liver'd of a Boy, which was brought to him  
as he was at Supper with the Magistrates, to  
whom he presented him as their King, and to  
testify his own and the Peoples Joy, gave him  
the Name of *Charilaus* or *Charillus*. *Lycurgus*<sup>Archelaus and Char-</sup>  
still continu'd the Regency, but it was as Guar-<sup>laus.</sup>

dian to the young King; 'till in about eight Months, finding that his Justice and Generosity were not sufficient to screen him against the Malice of the Queen, who would never forgive a Repulse upon an Offer of Marriage; that her Creatures insinuated, and her Brother reproach'd him to his Face, that he was satisfy'd he shou'd soon see him King, he chose to divert the Storm by Travel, and thought his Nephew might in the mean time have a Son to secure the Succession.

*Lycurgus  
his Travels.*

With this Resolution he first set sail to *Crete*, where he took a strict Survey of that Constitution, and made an Extract of its best Laws, with a design, when occasion should serve, to introduce them to *Sparta*. To this end he contracted an Intimacy there with *Tbales*, not the Philosopher, but a famous Poet and Lawgiver, and prevail'd with him to go to *Sparta*, in order to prepare the People for that great Change, which he afterwards effected. As to *Crete*, the

*The Cretan  
Common-  
speech.*

Establishment of its Laws is generally ascrib'd to *Minos*, who rather improv'd the Rough-draught laid down by *Rhadamanthus*, who for his Wisdom and Justice is by the Poets call'd one of the *Infernal Judges*. There are two recorded by the Name of *Rhadamanthus*, and two by that of *Minos*: But it is more generally said, there was only this one *Minos* the Lawgiver. He was call'd the Son of *Jupiter*; but that was in relation to the Fable, that *Jupiter* in the shape

shape of a Bull, which was the Ensign of the Ship, carry'd away *Europa*. The more historical Account of him, is, that he was the Son of *Asterius* and *Europa*, and that he succeeded his Father in the Kingdom of *Crete*: And these three, *Asterius*, *Europa*, and *Minos* are asserted to be the *Saturn*, *Rhea* and *Jupiter* of the *Cretans*. This Island lying so in the way of those who came out of the *East*, it seems probable that Civility got the first footing there, and that from thence it made a more early, if not so remarkable a Figure as some of the other States of *Greece*. There came with *Europa* into this Island some of the *Curetes*, who were the most knowing and skilful among the *Phœnicians*, and were a part of those who came with her Brother *Cadmus* into *Greece*, and were dispers'd into several Parts under different Names, as the *Corybantes*, the *Telchines*, and the *Cabiri*, and in *Crete* they were call'd the *Idæi Dætyli*. They brought in handicraft Trades, and invented Tools for them. They wrought in Copper and Iron; and made Armour, in which they danc'd at the Sacrifices with a confused Noise of Bells, Pipes and Drums, and struck upon one anothers Armour with their Swords in musical Times, appearing to be seiz'd with a divine Fury; and this is reckon'd the Original of Musick in *Greece*. It was by their means that *Minos* built a Fleet, and gain'd the Dominion of the Seas. And it is probable that he receiv'd the like Assistance

from them in the framing his Government. As for the Particulars of its Constitution, they were in so great a measure copy'd in that of *Sparta*, that there is no need of repeating the same thing under different Names. It is sufficient to observe in general, that *Minos* directed the whole Tenor of his Laws to the Freedom and Liberty of his Subjects: From *Crete* *Lycurgus* pass'd over into *Asia*; where tho' he could not but observe a vast difference betwixt the Severity of the *Cretan* Discipline, and the Looseness and Effeminacy of the *Ionians*, yet he every where found something to add to his own Scheme. It was here he met with *Homer's* Works, of which some Fragments before lay scatter'd in a few private Hands: But it was through his means that they were publish'd intire, and generally admir'd, tho' they still wanted that Order and Beauty with which they afterwards appear'd in the World, and which was owing chiefly to the care of *Solon*, and *Pisistratus*. From hence 'tis thought he went into *Ægypt*: But as for his Travels into the more remote Parts of the World, and his Conferences with the *Gymnosophists* in the *Indies*, they are not sufficiently attested. But whilst he was making these Improvements abroad, he was mightily wanted at home; and all Parties, with the Consent of the Kings themselves, sent several formal Embassies to solicit his Return. For after the Murder of *Eunomus*, with other tragical



gical Effects of the Peoples late Insolence, every thing tended to Sedition and Anarchy; and such unavoidable Destruction threaten'd the State, that they plac'd their sole Confidence in *Lycurgus*, who had before given 'em such large Demonstrations of his Justice and Integrity.

This was the Posture of Affairs when *Lycur-* *Lycurgus settles the State.*  
*gus* return'd; who finding the People generally dispos'd to receive any new Impressions, would lose no time: And the Corruption being universal, he found it necessary to change the whole Face of the Commonwealth. But considering how requisite a Shew of Religion is in such cases to gain Credit and Authority, he went first to consult *Apollo* at *Delpbi*, where the *Pythia* call'd him, *Beloved of the Gods, and rather God than Man.* To this famous Oracle he gave the Name of *Rhetra*, pretending to receive in it the Form of a Commonwealth, with an Assurance, that it should be the most flourishing of any in the World. Encourag'd by such happy Omens, he broke his Designs first to his particular Friends, and then by degrees gain'd others to his Party, 'till Things being ripe for Action, he order'd thirty of the principal Men to appear arm'd in the Market-place, to strike a Terror into those who oppos'd him. King *Cbarilaus* was alarm'd, and took Sanctuary in the Temple of *Minerva*, 'till being let into their Designs, and withal of a flexible Temper, he came out, and join'd in the Confederacy.

Having

*He institutes a Senate.*

Having made this first necessary Step, he began at the Head of the State: And tho' he continu'd the two Kings with the same Right of Succession, he made sufficient Abatements in their Power, by instituting a *Senate*, as a Counterpoise between the Prerogative and the People, their Business being to adhere to the weaker Side, 'till they reduc'd things to an equal Balance. It consisted of twenty eight Persons besides the Kings, the first Choice being made out of those who had been assisting to *Lycurgus* in the Settlement; and after them were admitted the most eminent for their private Virtue, or their Services to the Publick, but none under sixty Years of Age. They were continu'd for Life, except upon any notorious Misdemeanor; Which, as it prevented the Inconveniencies of too frequent a Change in that Body, so it was a lasting Reward to the old Men, and an Encouragement to the Young. They were the *Supreme Court of Judicature*; and tho' there lay an Appeal from them to the People, we find but few Instances of it, because they proceeded with such Deliberation and Caution, that they often staid several Days, to see what further Evidence could be brought on either Side, before they pass'd Sentence. And after all, they were not accountable for their Determinations; which *Aristotle* takes notice of as a larger Immunity, than is consistent with the just Form of a Commonwealth. When we consider further, that they

they had in effect the whole *Executive Power* in their Hands, it will easily appear what Figure their Kings made, who are to be look'd upon but as the chief Members of the Senate, since they had not Authority to decree, or undertake any thing of consequence, without a Majority on their Side. They had indeed some particular Respect and Deference paid to their Persons, having the chief Seats in the Assembly, giving their Opinion and Vote first; and *Herodotus* insinuates, that they had double Votes. But as to their particular Offices, they amounted to little more than the Reception of Ambassadors, and other Strangers, with the care of Sacrifices, Oracles, Adoptions, Heiresses, and the Highways. They were also liable to be call'd to account for Male-administration, being formally try'd, and condemn'd according to the nature of the Crime, only with a Reserve, which every private Citizen had, of appealing to the People. So that upon the whole, they had a more extensive Jurisdiction as Senators, than as Kings: For however they were sooth'd with the Title and Shew of Majesty, they were in effect much inferior to the *Roman Consuls*, and scarce so much as the present *Doges of Venice*. This was their condition at home: But in the Field they appear'd to a greater Advantage, where, as Generals of the Armies, they had a more absolute Command. They had to attend them a *General of the Horse*, with Judges in the nature

nature of *Field-Deputies*, besides *Colonels*, and other inferior Officers, whom they advis'd with as their Council, but were free to act as they thought convenient. Not but they receiv'd their Orders from the State; which tho' they were for the most part discretionary, yet were they sometimes forc'd to march against an Enemy, or to return home, when they least thought of it.

*The Peoples  
Share in  
the Govern-  
ment.*

As to the Peoples Share in this new Settlement, they had their *Assemblies*, the *Lesser* consisting of the Citizens only, and the *Great one* of the whole Body of the *Lacedaemonians*, who were free of the State. But they were little more than mere matter of Form; for the Senate assembled and dismiss'd them when they pleas'd, and propos'd what they thought convenient; which the People had nothing to do but to ratify, or reject, having not the liberty to propose, debate, determine, or so much as to deliver their Opinion. To add to which, they were left out of all the Offices in the State. So that they were very little Gainers by what the Kings lost, 'till *Lycurgus* made it up to 'em by his next Task, which seems the most difficult and hazardous of any he undertook; tho' it was indeed the chief Hinge upon which his whole Fabrick turn'd. This was his Division of the Lands, which had been engross'd chiefly by those who made their Advantage of the late troublesome Times. To these he represented the Convenience and Necessity of having no Inequality

quality or Distinction amongst them, but what <sup>The Division of</sup> Vice and Virtue made; and having the Poor, and <sup>Lands.</sup> Indigent, which were the gross of the People, on his side, prevail'd with 'em to renounce their Properties. Then taking an exact Survey of all *Lacomia*, he divided it into thirty thousand equal Shares, allotting nine thousand to the City in proportion to the Inhabitants, and the rest to the Country. Each Portion was sufficient to maintain a Family in that frugal manner he propos'd: And tho' the Kings had a larger share assign'd 'em to support their Dignity, yet their Tables had rather an air of Decency and Competency, than of Superfluity and Luxury.

But the Mony still lying unequally dispers'd, and the Lawgiver considering, that must of course bring the Lands again into few Hands, forbade the use of Gold and Silver, instituting <sup>Gold and Silver pro-</sup> Iron Mony in the room of it. Which being <sup>hibited.</sup> current only at home, and a great quantity requir'd to make up a little Sum, this brought Mony into such Difuse, that few troubled themselves with more than to supply their common Necessities: And so by consequence he banish'd Avarice, Rapine and Luxury, with their long train of Attendants: And the reason why we meet with so few Courts of Judicature in *Sparta*, is, that by this means he took away all occasion of Law-Suits. This Project was laugh'd at by the other *Grecians*, as having cut off all Trade,

Trade, and Merchandife: But *Lycurgus* had his aim in it, ſince it ſerv'd not only to ſuppreſs all Trades and Arts at home which tended to Effeminaacy and Exceſs; but alſo prevented the Importation of *foreign Vanities*; and kept another Law in force, which he made expreſly againſt the continuance of Strangers in the City, for fear of their corrupting the People, and breaking in upon his Conſtitution. And it was for the ſame Reaſons that he would not permit his own People to travel.

His next Ordinance was levell'd againſt private Luxury, that the Men ſhould not eat at home with their Families, but in one common Hall without diſtinction of Dignity, or Fortune; inſomuch that one of the Kings was reprov'd and puniſh'd for eating at home with his Queen. Theſe Meetings were at firſt call'd *Andria*, (the Name the *Cretans* us'd, from whom the Cuſtom

*The Phiditia.* was deriv'd) afterwards *Phiditia*, and *Syſſitia*:

Every one ſent his Proviſions in monthly, with a little Money for other Contingencies: But all ſuch things were forbid, which tended rather to pamper than nourish, one of their chief Diſhes being the famous *Spartan Broth*, which was black, and not very palatable to thoſe who were not us'd to it. This way of ſupping in common was at firſt ſo ſtrongly oppos'd, that *Lycurgus* was inſulted about it, and in the Tumult had one of his Eyes ſtruck out: But when it came to be eſtabliſh'd by Cuſtom, it was ſtrictly obſerv'd, and

and the Children were sent to these Tables; as to Schools of Temperance and Conversation.

*Lycurgus*, by this Regulation of the State, intended that of Manners, as the only means to support it; not thinking any one could make a good Citizen, who was not first a good Man. And as their Morals depended chiefly on Education, he took care to instil such early Principles, that they should in a manner be born with a Sense of Order and Discipline. To this end he began from the very time of their Conception, making it the Mother's Interest to use such Diet and Exercise, that she might produce Children of a robust, vigorous, and hardy Constitution. For if the Infant, upon a publick View at its Birth, was judg'd to be so deform'd, or weak, that it would prove rather a Burden than a Benefit to its Country, it was barbarously expos'd to perish in a Cavern near Mount *Taygetus*. Those who were free from these Defects, were deliver'd back to their Parents, and nurs'd with Hardship and Severity in Diet, Clothes, and every thing else, beyond what one would imagine Boys of that Age were capable of bearing.

At seven Years old their Parents had in a manner done with them: For they were then reckon'd Children of the Publick, and accordingly assign'd over into *Classes*, or *Companies*, in which one more forward and experienc'd than the rest presid'd as Captain, to govern and chastise

trife them, as he thought they deserv'd. For their very Sports and Exercises were regulated according to the exactest Discipline, and made up of Labour and Fatigue. They went barefoot, with their Heads shav'd, and fought with one another naked: And there was a yearly Custom of whipping them at the Altar of *Diana Taurica*, which they would bear patiently 'till the Blood ran, and sometimes, with a strange sort of Emulation, 'till they dy'd upon the Spot. *Plutarch* tells a Story of a Boy, who having stole a Fox, and hid it under his Coat, chose rather to let it tear out his very Bowels, than to discover the Theft. For Stealing with them was lawful, and encourag'd as a piece of military Exercise, but punishable, if found out.

*The Pædonomus.*  
*The Irens.*

At twelve Years old they were remov'd into other *Companies* of the same nature: Where, in order to crush the Seeds of Vice, which began at that time to display themselves, their Labour and Discipline were increas'd with their Age. Here they had their *Pædonomus*, who was the general Inspector into their Behaviour, and under him the *Irens*, young Men selected out of their own Body, one allotted to each Company, to exercise a more constant and immediate Command over them. Being now arriv'd to a more manly and martial sort of Exercise, they had their Skirmishes between Parties, and their Mock-fights, or rather real Engagements of greater Bodies: Of which the most eminent were the



the *Platanista*, (so call'd from the Place being set with Plane-Trees) where they fought with Hands, Feet, Teeth and Nails, and with such Courage and Obstinacy, that it was common with 'em to lose their Eyes, Limbs, and sometimes their Lives, before the Business was decided. Then as to the politick part, they had their Watches, Guards, Ambuscades, with other Wiles and Stratagems of War, to give them a Notion of what they were afterwards to do in the Field.

There was also due care taken for the Improvement of their Minds: But as their chief Business was Action and Obedience, a moderate degree of Learning was thought sufficient; and they receiv'd their Instructions rather from Men than Books. To this end the gravest Citizens took a pleasure in examining them, to try the Pregnancy of their Parts: And the *Irens* at Supper made 'em propose to one another variety of Questions, to which they were to give ready, clear, and short Answers. Which being improv'd into an Habit, it taught them a natural and graceful way of speaking, and furnish'd 'em with such a Presence of Mind, and Quickness of Thought, that they gave very surprising Turns to things, either by way of Repartee, or Apothegm, as the Subject would bear. This was the Foundation of that pithy Stile, which they afterwards retain'd, and was distinguish'd by the Name of the *Laconick*, being recommended

by *Lycurgus* upon this Principle, *That few Laws would serve those who us'd but few Words.* And tho' the *Spartans* were no Friends to Oratory, they were observ'd to deliver themselves as handsomly, and generally more to the purpose, than those who had gone through a formal course of Study, and us'd a long train of Arguments. For this concise manner of expressing themselves, detracted nothing from the Strength of their Thoughts, but rather gave them a greater Energy. It was an instructive Brevity; and its Beauty was, that there was more imply'd than express'd. Such was the constant strict Discipline they underwent during their Minority, which we may conclude lasted till they were thirty Years of Age, since they could not before that time marry, go into the Army, or bear any Office in the State: And if they did not marry soon after that Term, they were publickly disgrac'd.

The Rules of Education for the Virgins were much of the same stamp with those for the Boys, with very little regard to the natural Softness of the Sex. They were inur'd to a constant course of Labour and Industry 'till they were twenty Years old, before which time they were not allow'd to be marriageable. They had also their Exercises of Running, Wrestling, Darting, and Throwing the Bar; most of which they perform'd naked, and in publick: And yet this was thought so far from contributing to Vice,  
or

or Immodesty, that it was design'd as a Guard to Virtue, by appearing with such native Innocence and Simplicity. Their excelling in these Feats of Activity seems to have been the Foundation of that Sense of Honour, and Greatness of Spirit, of which the *Spartan* Women were Mistresses; and of which there is a notable Instance in *Gorgo*, the Wife of King *Leonidas*, who was told in Discourse with some foreign Ladies, *That the Women of Lacedæmon were they only of the World, who had an Empire over the Men;* to which she briskly reply'd, *There was good reason for it; for they were the only Women who brought forth Men.* In speaking of the Women, it is observable, that among other Provisions for Marriage, there was no Law against Adultery; and the Reason assign'd for it, is, that there was no such thing ever heard of in *Sparta*. But this looks like an Equivocation: For whatever Name they gave it, the Thing was certainly practis'd, and in a manner authoriz'd. It was by way of Borrowing and Exchanging with their Neighbours for a time by Consent: So that if a Woman lik'd another Man better than her Husband, the Pretence was always at hand, to mend the Breed, without the Inconveniencies of a Divorce. The case was much the same on the Man's side: And one Reason of allowing this mutual Liberty, was not so much to gratify Lust, as to remove so fruitless and racking a Pain, as that of Jealousy. These were the Me-

*Adultery  
allow'd of.*

thods *Lycurgus* took for the training up of Youth, and making early and deep Impressions of Virtue. He knew how near Custom and Education approach'd to Nature; and therefore it was from thence only, that he promis'd to himself a lasting Settlement of the State. Which seems to have been the chief Reason, why he would never reduce his Laws to Writing.

*Other Miscellaneous Laws.*

He laid down other general Maxims, in the Nature of Laws: As that they should not often make war upon the same Enemies, for fear of learning them their Discipline, 'till in time they came to be the Aggressors. Another was, that the City should not be wall'd, saying, *He would have a Wall of Men instead of Brick*: And indeed their way of Discipline kept them so constantly on their guard, and so in a Body, that it was hardly possible for them to be surpris'd; the Tilling of the Grounds, and all other servile Drudgery, being left to the *Helots*. It was not lawful to sell any of these Slaves into foreign Countries, or to make 'em free: So that their continual Increase gave umbrage to the State, and occasion'd the *Cryptia*, or *Secret Act*; by which it was order'd, that several Companies of young Men should now and then be dispatch'd into the Country, who lying conceal'd all Day in the Thickets, were to rush out upon 'em in the Night, and kill all they could lay their Hands on. This is generally ascrib'd to *Lycurgus*; tho' *Plutarch* says, he was of too mild a Disposition.

*The Cryptia.*

sition to authorize such a Barbarity. And indeed it seems more probable, that this Ordinance was of a later Date in the time of the *Ephori*, who proclaim'd war against them. But 'tis certain, that at this time they were us'd more like Beasts than Men of the same Society, being often made drunk, and carry'd into their publick Halls to expose Vice. This severe Treatment of 'em occasion'd a Saying, that, *He who was Free in Sparta, was most so; and a Slave there, was the greatest Slave in the World.*

Such was the Form of the Commonwealth instituted by *Lycurgus*; wherein his Success answer'd, or rather exceeded his very Wishes. For it cannot easily be imagin'd, how so sudden and universal a Change could be wrought by one who had nothing but his single Virtue to oppose against two Kings in possession of the Throne. Nor is it less surprizing, that a *Pagan*, who was indeed too indulgent to Adultery, Theft, and, in some cases, to Murder itself, should in the rest approach so near to *Christian* Morality, as sometimes to overtake it. The Effects of this Change being too material *The Effects* to omit, and too many to enumerate, will best *of this* appear by taking a short Survey of the Whole, *Change.* with the general Advantages that accru'd from it. Things being put upon so equal a Foot, there was no Matter left for private Debates and Animosities: Every Member of the State had nothing to do but to attend the Publick; and as

*With a  
short Sur-  
vey of the  
new Set-  
tlement.*

they conspir'd to the general Good, they found their own in it. In lieu of their Money, which they had parted with, they were possess'd of more inexhaustible Treasures: And of all their Wealth, nothing was esteem'd more precious than their Time. They had their constant Employments suited to all Ages and Capacities; and were so far from considering Labour as base and servile, that they embrac'd it as the Occupation of a Man intirely free. This Love of it interdicted all Plays even to Children; and the Soldier was not suffer'd to walk at his leisure Hours. In short, every Moment was devoted to Virtue; and it was a sort of Sacrilege to let the least Particle of it slip by unemploy'd. They were good Husbands even of their Words; so that a single Syllable often serv'd for an Answer to the most important Dispatches. Some of their Neighbours having sent 'em a threatening Message, *That if they got into their Country, they would put all to Fire and Sword,* they return'd answer, *If.* Their very Silence was expressive, and emphatical. They observ'd the strictest Rules of Temperance; so that Wine was seldom us'd among them, and a wheaten Loaf was reckon'd among their Dainties. There was no such thing as Splendor or Magnificence in *Sparta*. To go differently cloth'd, according to the Seasons of the Year, was there look'd on as a criminal Effeminacy: Even the Sex that is most curious in the ornamental part, studied

died only that of the Mind. They sacrific'd all sorts of Luxury to the Liberty of the Mind; and conceiv'd as great an Aversion to Sloth and Voluptuousness, as we naturally have to Pain and Grief. For this and other prevailing Reasons, the Diversions of the Theatre were not privileg'd, lest they should accustom their Eyes to behold the Representation of what was condemn'd by their Law, or their Ears to be polluted with the Apology of guilty Passions. The Law rul'd with an equal Authority over the Rich and the Poor: Their Kings valu'd themselves upon their Subjection to it, and distinguish'd themselves only by a stricter Obedience. Merit appear'd in every Age and Sex. Youth had no need to wait for the Lessons of Experience, which were supply'd by Institution and Example; whereby Women became capable of the most elevated Virtues. The Love of their Country silenc'd all maternal Softness, and made the Mother, when she heard her Son was slain in the Service of the Publick, regulate her Grief, according as the Wounds he receiv'd, were shameful, or honourable. After the strict Discipline they had undergone at home, they met with nothing terrible in the Field; and were *The only People in the World, to whom War gave Repose*. From hence it was, that they proceeded with a well-grounded deliberate Valour to an Engagement, and propos'd no End of it but Death, or Victory. They were seldom known,

to conquer by Stratagem or Surprise. The Glory they aspir'd to, was to be gain'd by dint of fighting, and in the open Field; and there they had no regard to the Inequality of Numbers. *Agis*, one of their Kings, had a Saying to this purpose, *That the Spartans did not inquire how many the Enemy were, but where they were.* The Reputation of so extraordinary a Merit prevail'd with the Kings of *Aegypt* and *Phenicia* to pay a sort of Homage to them, and testify their Submission in most solemn Embassies. Nor were the *Grecians* themselves less struck with Esteem and Reverence for them, being persuaded, that to attend them, was to follow Justice and Reason, and to pursue their own Honour and Interest. For Tyranny met in *Lacedæmon* with most terrible and implacable Enemies; Liberty, faithful and indefatigable Protectors. By this means *Sparta* exercis'd that Empire over the other States of *Greece*, which her Virtue had given her: And so long as she govern'd by that Title, was reverenc'd as the *Mother of Nations*, *Protetress of the Common Cause*, and *Supreme Judge of all Differences*. For all which she neither receiv'd, nor exacted any other Tribute, than that of Esteem, Love, Trust and Admiration.

*Defects in  
the Spartan  
Constitution*

Her Constitution however was not without its Faults. I have mention'd some notorious ones as to the moral Part: And the Government in general carry'd such an Air of Horror with it, that it was rather admir'd, than imitated.



tated. Their strict Discipline was harden'd into a Moroseness of Temper; so that they know not how to abate of their Rigour upon occasion, but extended the same harsh Severity to their Allies, which they us'd towards one another. Besides, there was no Peace, nor Truce observ'd in a Commonwealth devoted to Arms, and whose very Constitution was War. This by degrees made their Government distasteful; and favour'd the Ambition of the *Athenians* their Rivals, and indeed their Reverse: Who had liv'd a great while without any thoughts of Command; but at last exerted themselves, (as will appear by the Sequel of the Story) and drew both their own, and their Neighbours Necks out of the Collar.

But to return to *Lycurgus*, when he had <sup>*The Death*</sup> finish'd his Scheme, and found the Common-<sup>*of Lycurgus.*</sup>wealth able to support itself, he drew an Oath from the whole Body of the Senate and People to observe his Laws 'till his Return; and going to *Delphi*, as some say, to inquire whether he had omitted any thing necessary to the Preservation of the State, there starv'd himself. Others say he dy'd in *Crete*, ordering his Body to be burnt, and his Ashes to be thrown into the Sea. We can only conclude he dy'd in a voluntary Exile; and perhaps it was not known where, lest being transported back to *Sparta* either alive or dead, the People should make it a Pretence of freeing themselves from their Oath, and

*His Character.*

and cancel his Laws. But they bore no less Respect to his Memory, than to his Person: They built a Temple, and paid divine Honours to him; and yet *Aristotle* thinks it was less than he deserved. He was certainly a Person of exquisite Justice and Moderation, as well as Prudence. No body had a better Right to prescribe Laws to a Kingdom, than he, who could refuse one, when it was in a manner forc'd upon him; and who ran a greater Risk by declining the Offer, than he would have done by accepting it. He was not more remarkable in the Invention of his Laws, than in recommending them by his Example; since he ordain'd nothing to oblige others, which he did not punctually observe himself. And that he was equally as desirous to perpetuate the Happiness of the State, as to advance it for the present, appears from his voluntary Retirement, and the Manner of his Death.

*The End of the second State of Lacedæmon.*

With this Settlement by *Lycurgus*, we may conclude the second State of *Lacedæmon*, after it had continu'd between two and three hundred Years in a regular Succession of the two Families of *Eurybienes* and *Procles*. Whatever further Alterations it underwent, by which it inclin'd more towards a *Democracy*; yet the Regal

*The third State was properly a Commonwealth.*

Power was already so limited, that we are to look upon the present Establishment rather as a Commonwealth than a Kingdom: And therefore we shall not mention the succeeding Kings  
in

in any Order, as Kings, but only with relation to some principal Actions which they were concern'd in, either as chief Officers of the State, or Generals of the Army. But tho' we have brought the *Spartan* Story down to this Period, it seems necessary to prosecute it a little further, so as to take into our Account the *Messenian* War; which being the chief Action of note between the *Trojan* and *Persian* Wars, requires somewhat of a distinct Relation; but had too little Dependence upon the other Affairs of *Greece* to be interwoven with them, and falls more properly under our present Consideration of *Sparta*, as a separate State.

The *Lacedæmonians*, soon after the Death of their Lawgiver, grew impatient for Action; and renewing the War formerly begun with the *Argives* about their Confines, King *Charilaus* enter'd their Country with Fire and Sword. Some few Years after, they fell upon the *Tegeans* of *Arcadia*, who also border'd upon 'em, grounding their confidence of Success upon the Oracle, which had told 'em, *they should measure the Arcadian Ground with a Rope*. Accordingly they took their Ropes with 'em, with which they fancy'd they were to bind their Enemies as they took them. But they were shamefully deluded in their Interpretation: For the *Tegeans*, both Men and Women, oppos'd and routed them, took many of them Prisoners, and bound 'em with their own Ropes.

*Charilaus*

*Cbarilaus* was also taken, but soon releas'd upon his Oath never to fight more against 'em. Yet he had after this an Hand in the Destruction of *Ægys*, and other neighbouring Cities belonging to the *Acbeans*, which were thought to side with the *Tegeans*.

The Collegue of *Cbarilaus* for some time was *Teleclus*, the Son of *Archelaus*, whose Death happen'd thus. There was a Temple of *Diana* frequented by the *Lacedæmonians* and *Messenians*, as standing upon their Borders, and in common to both. The *Messenians* attempted the Chastity of some *Spartan* Virgins who were there attending the Solemnity, and kill'd *Teleclus*, who interpos'd in their Defence. The *Messenians* gave it a quite different Turn, and said it was a Plot of *Teleclus* to surprize them; that they discover'd these Virgins to be young Men thus disguis'd with Daggers under their Clothes, and therefore dispatch'd both them and their Incendiary. 'Tis certain *Teleclus* was kill'd in the Tumult; and what makes it look like Treachery on the *Lacedæmonians* side, is, that the thing was presently hush'd up, without endeavouring to revenge his Death: However this was afterwards consider'd as one remote Cause of the *Messenian* War. *Alcamenes* was the Successor of *Teleclus*, and *Nicander* of *Cbarilaus*; which latter kept on foot his Father's Quarrel with the *Argives*, and made successful Inroads into their Country. It was also in the four and thirtieth

thirtieth Year of his Reign, and the thirty seventh of his Collegue, that the first *Olympiad* was celebrated : Of which Institution we shall speak more at large in the Story of *Athens*, and only apply it here as a Date to the principal Events.

To *Nicander* succeeded *Theopompus* ; to whose Reign may be referr'd another great Change in the *Spartan* Government, by the Creation of the *Ephori* ; which some assign to *Lycurgus* as a <sup>The Creation of the</sup> part of his Settlement. But his Scheme had <sup>Ephori.</sup> too much of the *Aristocracy* in it, to admit of A. M. these popular Magistrates : And that he was <sup>3255.</sup> no Friend to *Democracy*, appears by the Answer <sup>Olymp. 7.</sup> <sup>4.</sup> he made to one who was highly commending that sort of Government, *Go, said he, and set it up first in your own House.* So that it does not appear by whom the *Ephori* were created, or with what Design. But *Theopompus* himself seems to have been consenting, or rather instrumental in the Institution of this Office ; and 'tis said *Elatus* first exercis'd it by his Appointment. However, he propos'd them as a Curb to the Citizens : And being reproach'd by his Queen, that *He would leave the Royal Authority weaker than he found it*, he told her, *He should leave it more lasting, and by consequence more solid.* Some will have 'em design'd as Assistants, and others as a Bridle to the Kings : But *Lycurgus* had left them so small a Share of the Administration, that the *Ephori* could not be of

of much use in either of these Capacities. 'Tis most probable that the Senate had, in the course of an hundred Years, extended its Power, and bore too hard upon the People; who not being satisfy'd with the Change of obeying thirty Masters instead of two, procur'd the Establishment of these Officers, who were to represent things on their Behalf, so as to cultivate and maintain a good Understanding between them, and the Regency. The reason of assigning them so many different Offices, is, because they were *Inspectors*, as the Name imports, to inquire into the Conduct both of the Magistracy, and the People. But they were chiefly to protect the Liberties of the People; who therefore chose them out of their own Body, without distinction of Birth, or Fortune, it being a sufficient Qualification, that they were bold, and popular, and averse to arbitrary proceedings. However moderate their Power at first was, in process of time it was so enlarg'd, that Affairs of the last consequence pass'd through their Hands, all the Magistrates in general, and the Kings themselves being accountable to them. By which means they seem'd to have erected a sort of Tyranny, which threaten'd greater Disorders than those they were design'd to remedy. But they had also their Curbs: The Kings and they took a mutual Oath every Month; the first in their own Names, to rule according to the Laws, and the latter in the Name of the People, to preserve their Authority to

to 'em safe and intire. For which reason the *Ephori* thought themselves oblig'd, in all pressing Conjunctions, to make the People agree to what had been before judg'd requisite for the common Interest. And as there were five of them, (the first of which was call'd *Eponymus*, upon the same account as the *Archon* at *Athens*) one was an Awe upon another; and nothing could be done without the Consent of the Whole, or at least of a Majority. But the greatest Security to the State was, that they were chosen annually. With these Restrictions, they serv'd as a *Cement* to join the several Orders of the State, and were therefore call'd, *The Nerves of the Commonwealth*. The Balance was held for the most part so equal, that the supreme Authority did not degenerate into Fierceness and Tyranny, nor popular Liberty start out into Licentiousness and Rebellion: And it is imputed to this *Medium* betwixt an excessive Subjection, and an excessive Freedom, that *Sparta* was so long preserv'd from those domestick Diffensions which harass'd her Neighbours.

Whatever Concessions *Theopompus* had made in favour of the People, they were again restrain'd by an Artifice of him, and his Colleague *Polydorus*: Who perceiving they had got ground since the Death of *Lycurgus*, and began to make Glosses and Interpretations of the Laws, contrary to the true Sense and Intent of them, inserted a Clause into the *Rhetra*, and made it pass

pass for authentick, *That if the People should go about to make any Alterations in the Decrees of the Senate, by perverting the Sense of them, or otherwise, it should be lawful for the Kings to make void their Proceedings, and dissolve the Assembly.*

*The  
Grounds of  
the first  
Messenian  
War.*

It was also in *Theopompus* his Reign, that the first *Messenian* War broke out; to which the Death of *Teleclus*, and several other things contributed: But it was chiefly grounded on an old hereditary Pique between the two Nations, ever since the Division of their Territories made by the *Heraclidae*. For the *Lacedaemonians* had often complain'd, that *Cresphontes*, Uncle to *Eurysthenes*, got *Messenia* by a Stratagem; which being the best Country, they thought they had too much Merit on their side, to leave them in a quiet Possession. There being so much Rancour and Ambition at the bottom, every trivial Accident serv'd to widen the Breach, 'till it came to an open Rupture. Such was that which is recorded as the more immediate Cause of this War. *Polychares* a *Messenian*, who had won the Prize in the *Olympick* Games, let out some Cows to Pasture to *Euæphnus* a *Lacedaemonian*, who was to pay himself for their keeping with a Share of the Increase. *Euæphnus* sold the Cows, and pretended they were stole from him: And being afterwards found out, kill'd *Polychares's* Son, who was sent to demand the Mony for 'em. *Polychares* had often made his Complaint  
at



at *Sparta*, and demanded Justice; 'till finding he was still put off without any Hopes of Redress, he grew so incens'd, that he kill'd all the *Lacedæmonians* he could lay his hands on. Then the *Lacedæmonians* in their turn remonstrated at *Messene*, and demanded *Polysbares*; who not being given up, it became a national Quarrel: Tho' it still look'd fairest on the *Messenians* side, who offer'd to refer it either to the *Argives* as their common Kinsmen, or to the *Ambietyons*, or else to the Senate of *Areopagus*. To have it made up, was not what the *Lacedæmonians* propos'd; however they kept the Business in suspense, by returning no Answer; and in the mean time made secret Provisions for the War, obliging themselves by Oath not to return 'till they had subdu'd *Messenia*.

Accordingly in the second Year of the ninth *Olympiad*, they set out by night under the Conduct of *Alcamenes*; and without any Declaration of War surpris'd *Amphea*, a frontier Town of great Importance, wherein they put all to the Sword; and having left a Guard in it as a Place of Retreat, made further Incurfions, plundering and ravaging the Country to subsist their Men. The *Messenians*, finding themselves not in a condition to oppose them, contented themselves with some small Reprisals upon the Coasts of *Laconia*. But after four Years they were sufficiently rous'd, and prepar'd for them; and *Euphaes* their King drew his Army down to

*The first Battle fought with equal Success.* the Borders to offer 'em Battle, which the *Lacedæmonians* accepted, and fought upon equal Terms 'till they were parted by the Night: And the next Day finding the greatest part of the *Messenian* Army strongly intrench'd, and themselves not in a condition to force their Camp, return'd home.

*A second with the same Success.* But being upbraided by their Countrymen with the Violation of their Oath, they went again the next Year to make their utmost Efforts under the Conduct of both the Kings, *Theopompus*, and *Polydorus* the Son of *Alcarnes* now dead. They found their Enemy ready to receive 'em; and a Battle ensu'd, wherein the Advantage which the *Spartans* had as well in Numbers as Discipline, was so well supply'd by the desperate Valour of the *Messenians*, that things were again upon a pretty equal foot. In the right Wing *Euphaes* put *Theopompus* to flight, and in the Left *Polydorus* had the better: But the main Body maintain'd the Conflict so long, and so doubtfully, that both Parties at last gave off, as it were, by consent, and neither claim'd the Victory. The next Day they bury'd their Dead, and did not care to put it to a second Trial: So that if the *Lacedæmonians* had any Advantage, they were too much disorder'd themselves to pursue it, especially in an Enemy's Country.

The *Messenians* now began to labour under the usual Inconveniencies of having their Country the

the Seat of the War. This occasion'd great Scarcity of Mony and Provisions, and Desertion to the Enemy; to add to which, there was a Mortality among them. So that being oblig'd to evacuate most of their straggling Towns, they retir'd into *Ithome*, a Town strongly situated upon an high Mountain, and fortify'd it so as to secure 'em against any sudden Attempt. <sup>The Messenians retire into</sup> *Ithome*. This Retreat gave 'em Respite for some Years: And in that time they sent to *Delphi*, to know the further Event of the War. The Oracle demanded a Virgin for a Sacrifice of the Family of *Aegyus*, the Son of *Cresphontes*; and the Lot fell upon the Daughter of *Lyciscus*; who being thought to be supposititious, *Aristodemus* offer'd his Daughter. A young Man in Love with her, endeavour'd to save her, by alledging she was with child by him: But her Father was so enrag'd, that he ripp'd up her Belly with his own Hand, and publicly vindicated her Innocence. The Priest would not allow of this as a just Sacrifice, 'till *Euphaes* oppos'd him, saying, *It was no matter how, or by whom she was kill'd; and that the Oracle requir'd no more Blood.* Some Years after, *Lyciscus*, who had fled to *Sparta* with his Daughter, where she dy'd, was taken, and try'd at *Ithome* as a Defenter; but was acquitted by the voluntary Confession of the Priestess of *Juno's* Temple, who own'd the Child to be hers, and that she had secretly convey'd it to *Lyciscus's* Wife:

Wife: Wherein she was easily credited, because, by this Confession, she could propose nothing less than the immediate Forfeiture of her Priesthood.

*Conflict between the Spartans and Argives.*

The *Lacedæmonians* being now inur'd to Action, took this Opportunity of a Cessation with the *Messenians*, to renew their old Contest with the *Argives*, about *Tbyrea* situate in the Confines, and claim'd by both. But the matter being referr'd to the *Amphibryons*, they order'd 'em to dismiss their Armies, and decide it with three hundred Men of a side. Of the *Argives*, there were but two who surviv'd the Conflict; and of the *Lacedæmonians*, only *Otbryades*; who yet liv'd no longer, than to erect a Trophy of the Enemies Shields, and make an Inscription on it with his own Blood: For whose Sake the Town was adjudg'd to the *Lacedæmonians*. The *Argives*, thinking they had not justice done 'em, kept their Pretensions on foot, and (as *Herodotus* says) engag'd afresh, and were worsted: But he seems to have mistaken this for another Battle, which happen'd some considerable time after.

*Messenian War renewed.*

But the Quarrel being adjusted for the present, the *Lacedæmonians* turn'd their Arms again upon the *Messenians*: And eight Years after the Removal to *Ithome* there happen'd another sharp Engagement, which continu'd 'till night, with the same doubtful Success as before, except that *Euphaes* venturing too far against

*A third Engagement.*

against *Thopompus*, was almost taken by his Party, but rescu'd, and carry'd into his Tent, where in a few Days he dy'd of his Wounds. *Euphaes* He, leaving no Children, was succeeded by *Aristodemus*, as the most popular Pretender. He immediately form'd a Confederacy with the *Argives*, *Arcadians*, and *Sicyonians*; and the *Lacedæmonians* had some Assistance from *Corinth*. Yet nothing happen'd for five Years, but Incursions into one another's Territories; which at last ended in a fourth general Engagement of both Parties with their Allies; wherein the *Messenians*, being inferior in number, had posted themselves with their Backs to *Ithome*, to secure a Retreat: And a Party which lay in ambush, pouring in upon the *Lacedæmonians* in the heat of the Action, gall'd them so in their Flank, that after a very warm Dispute, many of them were kill'd, and the rest put to flight.

The *Lacedæmonians* having in this Battle lost the Flower of their Army, despair'd of doing any thing by dint of fighting, and therefore had recourse to Wiles and Stratagems; which tho' it was contrary to their usual way of making War, they found necessary at this time; and herein they made use of the Advice of the Oracle, which had told 'em, that as *Messenia* was at first obtain'd by an Artifice, so it was to be recover'd. But the Cunning and Vigilance of *Aristodemus* defeated all their Designs, 'till at

*Ithome besieged.* last the Siege of *Ithome* gave a sudden Turn to their Affairs. Whilst the *Messenians* were by this means closely block'd up, and cut off from all manner of Provisions, *Aristodemus* was so stung with Remorse, for that he had sacrific'd his Child for his Country's Good, and yet could not obtain it, that he kill'd himself at her Grave. He had done all that was possible to preserve his sinking Country; and it was no Objection to his Merit, that he had not Fortune in his Power. With him fell the *Messenian* Kingdom: And the Loss of him so heighten'd the Despair of his Subjects, that they thought of nothing but throwing themselves at their Enemies Mercy. And tho' upon second thoughts they propos'd to make a Sally, and fight it out to the last Man, yet their Hearts fail'd them, and they chose rather to submit to Hunger, and many other pressing Necessities, for five Months. After which, being able to subsist no longer, they yielded upon such Terms as the Conquerors pleas'd to impose on them; one chief Article being, that they should till their Ground, and send half the Increase to *Sparta*. *Ithome* was demolish'd, and the rest of the Towns submitted; tho' some of the Inhabitants fled to their Neighbours, who had been assisting to them in the War, rather than they would live at home in a condition little better than that of Slaves

*The end of the first Messenian War.* Thus ended the first *Messenian* War, in the first Year of the fourteenth *Olympiad*,

*piad*, after it had continued, with some little Interruptions, about twenty Years. A. M. 3280.

We must not omit one memorable Passage of the *Lacedæmonians* in this War, who having drain'd their City of Men, and oblig'd themselves not to return 'till their Designs were accomplish'd, the Women in the mean while remonstrated to them, that their Posterity would fail, whilst they spent thus upon the quick Stock, and took no care for a Recruit. To remedy which Inconvenience, they detach'd fifty of the likeliest young Fellows in the Army, to go to *Sparta*, and lie promiscuously with all the young Women they fancy'd. The Offspring of these Virgins were from them called *Partheniæ*; who finding themselves contemned and slighted by the *Spartans* upon their Return, as a spurious Breed, join'd some Years after in an Insurrection with the *Helots*, but were soon suppress'd; and being expell'd the State, went under the Conduct of their Captain *Pbalantus* into *Italy*, and settled themselves in *Tarentum*. *The Partheniæ.*

The *Messenians* groining under the severe and insolent Treatment of their new Masters, were forc'd to stay 'till they had in some measure repair'd their Losses before they could hope to throw off the Yoke. Which after thirty nine Years they attempted by a general Revolt, chiefly at the Instigation of *Aristomenes*, a young Man of extraordinary Courage and Capacity,

*The second  
Messenian  
War broke  
out.*

A. M.

2319.  
Olymp.

23. 4.  
*The first  
Action at  
Deræ.  
Olymp.*  
24. 1.

who manag'd the whole Business for 'em, and had beforehand engag'd the *Argives* and *Arcadians* on their side. Thus the second *Messenian* War broke out, in the fourth Year of the twenty third *Olympiad*, at which time *Anaxander*, Grandson of *Polydorus*, and *Anaxidamus*, great Grandson of *Theopompus*, were Kings of *Sparta*. The first Action happen'd a Year after the Revolt, at *Deræ*, a *Messenian* Village, where the *Messenians* thought it sufficient that they lost no ground; and this they ascrib'd to the prodigious Valour of *Aristomenes*; who being of the Line of *Æpytus*, they would have chose him King; which Title he declin'd for that of General; and as such he commanded with full Power. In the mean while the Oracle at *Delpbi* being consulted by the *Lacedæmonians*, they were advis'd to apply themselves to *Athens*, for one to preside over their Affairs in the nature of a Counsellor. The *Athenians* were very jealous of their getting too great a footing in *Peloponnesus*: But to shew some kind of Obedience to the Oracle, and some Sense of the Honour done to their City, they sent *Tyrtaeus*, a lame, crack-brain'd Poet and Schoolmaster, whose chief Business was to harangue, and repeat Verses. How great soever this Man might be in other respects, he made a very ridiculous Figure in the Army, and seems rather to have been sent in contempt of the *Spartans*, who nevertheless were glad to receive him;



him; for looking upon him as the *Messenger of the Fates*, they desired no other Qualification than his being lent them by the *Athenians*.

The next Year, at a Place call'd the *Boar's-Monument*, happen'd another long and obstinate Fight, wherein both Parties had their old Allies. *Aristomenes* at last routed the *Lacedaemonians*; but losing his Shield in the Pursuit; gave them an opportunity of escaping. Upon this Success he began to act offensively; and making Incurfions into *Laconia*, took a Town call'd *Pharae*, and plunder'd it; then routed *Anaxander*, who oppos'd his Passage; and intending to make directly to *Sparta*, was deterr'd from that Attempt by a fancy'd Apparition of *Helena*, and her Brothers *Castor* and *Pollux*, who were look'd upon as the *Guardian Deities* of that State.

The *Lacedaemonians* however were so dispirited, that they had thoughts of clapping up a Peace. To prevent which, *Tyrtæus* now exerted all his Power of Insinuation; and by his continual Lectures of Honour and Courage, deliver'd in moving Verse to the Army, animated them to such a degree, that they resolv'd upon another Attack. With this Design they recruited their Army with the *Helots*, promising them the Widows of those that should be kill'd; and ventur'd upon another Action the next Year at the *Great Ditch*. The *Messenians* had only the *Arcadians* to

assist

The third  
at the  
Great  
Ditch.  
Olymp.  
24. 3.

assist them; whose King *Aristocrates* being corrupted by the Enemy, drew off his Men as the Fight began, and left them an easy Prey to the *Lacedæmonians*, who cut off most of the Men, with many of the *Messenian* Nobility. But *Aristomenes* himself having escap'd their Fury, pick'd up the shatter'd Remains of his Army, and retir'd with them into a Castle upon Mount *Eira*; to secure which, he fortify'd *Pylus*, and *Metbone* towards the Sea, abandoning all the Inland Towns. The *Messenians* were not so block'd up, but *Aristomenes* forc'd his Passage; and with a select Body of three hundred Men, rang'd up and down the Country, laying all waste before him, took *Amycle* by surprise, and gaye the Enemy such Diversions, that they could not carry on the Siege. But in one of these Skirmishes being engag'd with the two *Spartan* Kings, he with fifty of his Company were taken Prisoners, carry'd to *Sparta*, and thrown into the common Malefactors Dungeon. They were all kill'd with the Fall but *Aristomenes*; who finding a Fox at the bottom preying upon a Carcase, clapp'd one Hand upon his Mouth to secure himself, and with the other caught him fast hold by the Tail; upon which the Beast made directly to his Hole, and conducted him, 'till the way being too narrow for them both, he let the Fox go, and following the Tract with his Eye, perceiv'd a little Glimmering from above, and work'd himself out.

After

*Aristomenes* taken.  
Olymp.  
25. 2.

After this miraculous and almost incredible <sup>His mi-  
raculous</sup> Escape, he repair'd immediately to *Eira*, where <sup>Escape.</sup> in a Sally by night he fell upon the *Corinthian* Forces, kill'd the Captains, and plunder'd their Tents. He was after this taken by some *Cretans*, who also assisted in the Siege: But his Keepers being made drunk, he stabb'd them with their own Daggers, and return'd to his Company.

The Siege in the mean while was very little advanc'd: But it happen'd the eleventh Year after the taking of *Aristomenes*, in a very dark rainy Night, that the Centinels thinking all safe, deserted their Posts; which the Enemy having notice of by a *Spartan*, who had an Intrigue with a *Messenian* Woman, rush'd in immedi- *Eira taken;* ately upon them, and surpris'd the Castle. The Besieg'd took the Alarm, and maintain'd an obstinate Fight all the next Day: But being at last press'd with Numbers, *Aristomenes* chose rather to give up the Place, than sacrifice the last Remains of his Army. The *Arcadians* were so far from abandoning their old Friends in this Extremity, that they went out to meet them with Provisions, and make 'em an Offer of settling among 'em. But *Aristomenes*, who could not yet resolve with himself to give up all for lost, pick'd out a Body of five hundred, whom he thought least desirous to survive their Country's Ruin, and ask'd 'em, *If they would once more venture their Lives with him.* Upon their Answer,

Answer, *That they would*, he broke his Designs to them of going to surprize *Sparta*, whilst its chief Strength was employ'd in the Plunder of *Messenia*, telling 'em, *That Success would put Things again upon an equal foot ; and that the worst that could happen was an honourable Death*. Three hundred *Arcadians* join'd with 'em in the Enterprize : But just as they were preparing, they found their Hopes again blasted by *Aristocrates*, who being still in Fee with *Sparta*, sent immediate Notice of this Design to King *Anaxander*; for which a Letter of Thanks was return'd both for his timely Advice in this Affair, and for his past Service in the Battle of the *Ditch*. This Letter being intercepted, his whole Treachery was laid open; upon which his own Subjects stoned him to death, and erected a Pillar to perpetuate his Infamy. However this Disappoint-

*The End of  
the second  
Messenian  
War.*

A. M.  
3336.  
Olymp.  
28. 1.

ment after the taking of *Eira* put an end to the second *Messenian* War, which had continu'd almost eighteen Years from the Revolt, and been carry'd on with doubtful Success most part of the time. Whatever Service *Tyrtaeus* had done in this War, the *Lacedæmonians* were not ungrateful; and as one part of his Reward, they made him free of their City: Upon which Occasion, *Pausanias*, the Son of *Cleombrotus*, being afterwards ask'd, *How the Spartans came to do him this Honour*, he answer'd, *Because they would not be thought ever to have made use of a foreign General*. But it may be more to his advantage to

con-

consider him as a Man of Letters, than of Arms; for 'tis certain his Poetry bears the first place in his Character. His Works were the Policy of the *Lacedæmonians*, Moral Precepts in Elegiack Verse, and five Books of War Verses.

The *Messenians* were very desirous to settle themselves in other Parts, under the Conduct of *Aristomenes*: But he committed them to the care of his Sons, and throwing himself among a Body of *Spartans* near *Eira*, was kill'd; tho' others say, that being a sworn Enemy to *Sparta*, he continued several Years in those Parts, in hopes of an Opportunity to revenge himself, and at last died in *Rhodes*, where he had marry'd a Daughter. However, it is certain he liv'd and dy'd with the Reputation of as much personal Bravery, and Love of his Country, as any Man at that time in *Greece*. He had thrice in this War perform'd the *Hecatomphonia*, a Sacrifice due to those who in the Battle had kill'd an hundred of the Enemy with their own Hands. The *Spartans* conceiv'd such a Dread of him, that even after *Eira* was taken, they were glad to open a Passage for him, and he march'd out rather as a Conqueror, than like one who was making his Escape. Whilst the *Messenians* were considering how to dispose of themselves, they were invited by *Anaxilas*, Prince of *Rbegium*, whose Ancestors were *Messenians*, and had seated themselves in *Italy* upon their Defeat in the first *Messenian* War. He told them, he was at war with

*The Death  
of Aristomenes.*

with the *Zancleans*, a People of *Sicily*, and that if they would assist him in subduing them, he would deliver the Town into their Hands. Accordingly he transported 'em into *Sicily*, where being possess'd of *Zancle*, they incorporated themselves with the Inhabitants, because they were also originally *Grecians*; but destroying the old Town, built a new one about a Mile distant, and gave it the Name of *Messene*, which it still retains. Greece was at this time so well peopled, that it was common upon any little Pique, or ill Success in a Battle, to throw themselves out in Colonies; which by this means were planted not only in *Sicily* and *Italy*, but several other Parts of *Europe* and *Asia*. But to avoid Tedioufness and Repetition, we shall mention the chief of 'em in their proper places, and return to the *Messenians*; many of whom, thro' Age or Poverty, were still left at home, and inroll'd among the *Spartan Helots*; and it seems chiefly upon their account, that these Slaves met with such severe Treatment. For they were apt to rebel, and struggle with their Chains; but were forc'd to bear 'em above two hundred Years. And it is strange, that all that time, an enslaved, banished, and dispersed Nation should retain their Name, Customs, and Language, with their Hatred to *Sparta*, and Love of their Country, and at last meet with an Opportunity of returning to it, and being thoroughly re-instated.

*The Messenians seated in Sicily.*

A. M.

334<sup>O</sup>.  
Olymp.  
29. 1.

How-

However the present Accession of this Country to the *Spartans* Territory serv'd to raise their Credit and Power; and they were not long possess'd of it, before they led their Army into *Arcadia*, and renew'd their old Dispute with the *Argives*. But nothing happen'd very remarkable in these private Quarrels with their Neighbours; and as for their publick Transactions with other States, they are to be refer'd to the more intire Body of the *Grecian* Story.



# CHAP. IV.

## *The Kingdom and Aristocracy of Corinth, to the intire Subversion of the Regal Power.*

*Containing the Space of about 900 Years.*

**C**Orinth, from a little obscure Town call'd Corinth *Epbyra*, was rais'd into a Kingdom by <sup>founded by</sup> *Sisyphus* about the 2500th Year of the World. A. M. This is he who is condemn'd by the Poets to 2500. the endless Labour of rolling a great Stone up a Hill, for having discover'd one of *Jupiter's* Intrigues. To his Son *Glaucus* is generally *Glaucus*. ascrib'd the Institution of the *Isthmian* Games. *Glaucus* was Father of *Bellerophon*, who having *Bellerophon* kill'd a Man at *Corinth*, fled to *Prætus* King of *Phon*.

*Argos* ;

*Argos*; whose Wife *Sthenobæa* falling in Love with him, and being repuls'd, accus'd him to her Husband of an intended Rape: Which Story is observ'd to agree with that of *Joseph*, and his *Egyptian* Mistress; as indeed many of the Fables of Antiquity, however they are wrested and disguis'd by the Poets, seem to have been founded upon better Authority than is generally produc'd for them. *Prætus*, as he had hitherto protected him, would not violate the Laws of Hospitality by killing him, but sent him to his Wife's Father then reigning in *Lycia*, to dispose of him as he thought he deserv'd. He put him upon many difficult Enterprises; wherein his most noted Encounter was with the *Cbimera*: But what this Monster was, I had rather leave undetermined, than with the generality of Expositors, to make such forced Conjectures, as to explain one *Cbimera* by another. It may suffice that *Bellerophon* came off Conqueror; by which means he obtain'd the King's Daughter, and with her the Succession to the Kingdom of *Lycia*. In the mean while he was succeeded at *Corinth* by *Thoas*, the Son of *Ornytion* his Father's Brother; and he by his Son *Demophon*. The next was *Propodas*; who left the Crown jointly to his two Sons, *Doridas* and *Hyanthidas*. *Corinth* being involv'd in the common Obscurity of the *Grecian* Kingdoms, especially towards the time of their Foundation, we cannot assign the exact

Thoas.

Demo-

phon.

Propodas.

Doridas

and Hyanthidas.

thidas.

Time



Time and Duration of each Reign: Neither is it certain whether all these reign'd, who are mention'd, or whether there are not many more wanting, besides these who are recorded, to complete a Term of above four hundred Years assign'd to this first Race of Kings of the Posterity of *Sisyphus*. Both this, and the other following Periods of Succession in this Kingdom, are reduc'd by Sir *Isaac Newton* to a much less number of Years, than is commonly allotted to them.

However, it is agreed that in the Reign of *The second* the two last mention'd, happen'd the *Descent* <sup>Race of</sup> *of the Heraclidae*; who in their Division of *Pe-* <sup>Kings un-</sup> *loponnesus* reserv'd *Corinth* for their Kinsman <sup>Heraclidae</sup> *Aletes*, the Son of *Hippotes*, and great Grand- <sup>A. M.</sup> son to *Hercules*. Accordingly the two Kings <sup>2920.</sup> being displac'd, or their Families extinct, he took possession of the City, which he enlarg'd and beautify'd. It had before this the Name of *Corinth*, from *Corintbus* who built it, and who being the reputed Son of *Jupiter*, had also nam'd the City, *Corinth* of *Jupiter*. But this Name was rather given by *Aletes* in gratitude <sup>Aletes.</sup> to the Oracle of *Jupiter* at *Dodona*, which had favour'd him in his Pretensions. *Aletes*, after a Reign of thirty eight Years, was succeeded by the eldest of his Family for several Generations. The first was *Ixion*, who reign'd <sup>Ixion.</sup> thirty eight Years; the next *Agelas*, who <sup>Agelas. I.</sup> reign'd thirty seven; *Prumnes*, thirty five; and <sup>Prumnes.</sup>

Bacchis. *Bacchis* as many. Which last being more famous and popular than his Ancestors, his Successors, instead of *Heraclidæ*, went by the Name of *Bacchidæ*. *Agelas* the first of these, and the second of this Name, reign'd thirty Years; *Eudamus* thirty five; *Aristomedes*, by some call'd *Aristodemus*, thirty five. He left a young Son call'd *Telestes*, under the Guardianship of his Brother *Agemon*; who having depriv'd his Nephew of the Kingdom, held it for himself sixteen Years; and left it to *Alexander*, who after twenty five Years more, was kill'd by *Telestes*, the Son of *Aristomedes*. *Telestes* by that means obtain'd his Father's Kingdom, and enjoy'd it twelve Years; 'till he was also slain by his Kinsmen, and made way for *Automenes*, who holding it but one Year, concluded the second Race of Kings, which had continu'd from *Aletes* between three and four hundred Years, and by that means gave occasion to a great Interruption in the Government.

For after *Automenes*, the *Bacchidæ*, to the number of above two hundred, assumed the Power into their Hands. They elected one as President every Year out of their own Body, and instead of King, gave him the Name of *Prytanis*: But his Office consisted more of Title than Power. And thus the State was govern'd for the space of ninety, or, as some say, about an hundred and twenty Years, in the nature of an *Aristocracy*.

During

During which time *Corinth* began to exert its Power by Sea; and planted its two famous Colonies of *Syracuse* and *Corcyra*; the first under the Conduct of *Archias*, and the latter of *Cberficrates*, both of the Posterity of *Hercules*. *Syracuse*, from its Soil, Havens, and other Conveniencies, soon grew to be not only the *Metropolis* of *Sicily*, but as large and beautiful as any City in *Greece*. And *Corcyra* having the same Advantages by Sea, became so considerable, as to found two other Cities in *Illyricum*, *Epidamnus* and *Apollonia*. These Colonies were at first subject to *Corinth* their *Metropolis*, and were govern'd much after the same manner; but as they increas'd in Power, they renounc'd their Obedience, and thereby gave occasion to such Comotions, as will furnish out a considerable part of the *Grecian* Story.

The *Bacchidæ*, to secure the Government to their Posterity, confin'd their Marriages to their own Family; 'till *Labda*, one of their Women, being lame and deform'd, was rejected by 'em, and marry'd to *Eëtion*; who, (as *Herodotus* tells the Story) for want of Children, went to consult the Oracle at *Delphi*, and was answer'd, *He should have a Son by her, that would fall like a Stone upon the Oligarchy, and by that means dissolving it, should reform the State.* This alarm'd the *Bacchidæ*, especially as it serv'd to confirm an Oracle they had receiv'd before to the same purpose, tho' in more ambiguous

Terms. And therefore when the Woman was deliver'd, they sent ten of their Members to destroy the Infant; which smiling in their Faces affected 'em so, that they agreed to deliver it back to the Mother. They were no sooner gone, but they repented of their Compassion, and return'd to the Mother; who, in the mean while, being better inform'd of their Errand, had hid the Child under a *Busbel*, or some such sort of Corn Measure, from which he afterwards had the Nome of *Cypselus*. Thus were they again defeated; and that which secur'd the Boy afterwards, was their giving out, that they had executed their Commission.

*Cypselus* being of age, thought it time to fulfil the Oracle; and was encourag'd by another, which told him positively he should reign in *Corinth*, but restrain'd the Succession to him, and his Children, thereby excluding the third Generation. To compass his Designs, he first made use of soft insinuating Methods to cajole the People out of their Liberty, and having by this means lull'd them asleep, he practis'd upon them with the greater Security. His first necessary Step was to remove the *Bacchidae* at some distance from him: In order to which he prevail'd with them to go in a body to consult the Oracle about the publick Safety. They were no sooner gone, but he took upon him to forbid their Return by an express Edict; and in the mean while usurp'd the Government; tho' it is thought

*Cypselus  
usurps the  
Govern-  
ment.*

thought he could not have effected so sudden a Change with so little Opposition, if the Luxury and Supineness of the *Bacchidae* themselves had not in a great measure contributed to it. In the A. M. Beginning of his Reign, which is placed under 3349. the thirty-first *Olympiad*, he cut off all Obstruc-<sup>Olymp. 31. 2.</sup> tions to his Power, sparing neither the Estates nor Lives of those, whom he thought any ways obnoxious. It was in these Troubles that *Demaratus*, an eminent Man amongst the *Bacchidae*, and a rich Merchant, fled into *Italy*, and settled in *Hetruria*; where of a Woman of that Country he had two Sons, *Aruns* and *Lucumon*; the latter of which was afterwards King of *Rome*, by the Name of *Tarquinius Priscus*. As to *Cypselus*, whatever Acts of Injustice his Ambition prompted him to, they seem to have proceeded rather from Necessity than Nature, because when he was thoroughly establish'd in the Throne, he grew very mild and indulgent, and plac'd such an intire Confidence in the Love of his Subjects, that he would not in all his Reign have any Guard about him; which was look'd upon as an extraordinary Instance, in one who had the Name of a Tyrant and Usurper. By these Methods he enjoy'd the Crown thirty Years, and when he died, left it to his Son *Periander*.

He was quite the Reverse of his Father, *Periander*. which some attribute to his Temper, and others<sup>Olymp. 38. 4.</sup> to his Acquaintance with *Tbrasybulus* the Tyrant

of *Miletus*: To whom sending for his Advice about the Management of the State, he took the Messenger out into a Corn Field, and having struck off all the Ears that were shot up above the rest, sent him back without any Answer. *Periander* soon took the Hint, by taking off the most eminent of the Citizens; which secur'd him in the Kingdom, but with the Character of a savage and inflexible Tyrant. There are other gross Enormities recorded of him, as his committing Incest with his Mother; his killing his Wife big with child at the Instigation of his Whores, and lying with her when dead. By which Acts he knew he had forfeited the Good-will of his Subjects, and therefore would not trust himself without a constant Guard of three hundred Men. He had two Sons, whereof *Cypselus* the eldest was a mere Natural; and the youngest called *Lycophron* he sent into *Corcyra*, for resenting his Mother's ill Treatment. However being grown old and infirm, he sent for him again, to settle him in the Tyranny, and offer'd to change Governments with him: But the *Corcyraeans*, to prevent his coming among them, killed the young Prince; which, 'tis thought, occasion'd also the Father's Death, after he had liv'd eighty Years, and reign'd forty. The greatest Honour paid to his Memory, is the ranking him among the *Seven Sages of Greece*. But he obtain'd this Title chiefly by insinuating himself into the Company

Olymp.  
48. 4.

pany of all the wise and virtuous Men of his Time; so that it seems to have been more the Effect of his Ambition, than his Merit: For he has given so few Instances of his Wisdom, to support his Pretensions, that some have excluded him out of the Number, and plac'd *Myson* in his room. The State suffer'd such Convulsions under his Tyranny, that tho' upon his Death, the Crown devolv'd to *Psammetichus* the Son of *Psammetichus the last King.* *Gordias*, his Brother or Kinsman, the People took occasion to lay him aside in a little above three A. M. Years, and form'd themselves into a settled Commonwealth, with a greater share of Liberty than *Olymp.* 3422. 49. 3. they enjoy'd under the *Bacchidae*; it being now a mixt Government between an *Oligarchy* and *Democracy*.

It is certain the *Corinthians* express'd a particular Aversion to *Monarchy*, by engaging in several Wars, rather as the common Asserters of Liberty, than out of any ambitious Designs; tho' they might with the same Ease have enlarg'd their own Territories, as defended others. They had such Temptations to give Law to their Neighbours, as no State in *Greece* had beside themselves, from the Convenience of their Shipping, and their Situation in the *Isthmus*, whereby they commanded both the *Ionian* and *Ægean* Seas, and were the only Pass of Communication between *Peloponnesus* and the Continent; from whence the *Acrocorintus*, or Castle, was term'd the *Eye*, and the City, the

*Fetter of Greece.* And it was upon these accounts that the *Romans* allow'd *Corinth* to be one of the three Cities that were capable of bearing the weight of a great Empire. But their Thoughts turning more upon Profit, than Honour, these Advantages were improv'd into Trade and Merchandize; which brought them in a vast Quantity of Riches, but withal sunk 'em into such a state of Sloth and Luxury, that they are hardly to be plac'd above the *Republicks* of the second Rank. And yet now and then, in the subsequent Wars of the *Grecians* among one another, they exerted themselves, and were of great weight to their Allies.

\*Carthage  
and Capua  
the other  
two.



## C H A P. V.

*The Kingdom of Thebes.*

*Containing the Space of 322 Years.*

THE capital City of *Bœotia* was *Thebes*; by whom founded is not certain, but in-  
Calydnus. habited by *Calydnus*, whom the earliest Accounts  
Ogyges. make the first King of that Country. *Ogyges* is also mention'd as his Successor: But he was more properly seated in *Attica*, where he gave Name to the Deluge, which happen'd in his Time. If we allow he reign'd in *Bœotia*, his Subjects were the *Eteæne*, the first known Inhabitants. But we are still at a loss to supply an



an Interval of above three hundred Years, between him and *Cadmus*: And as both these Kings are recorded without any convincing Particulars of their Reigns, we must rest satisfy'd with this general Remark, that *Calydnean* and *Ogygean* are apply'd as Epithets to any thing of remote Antiquity.

There are several Arguments brought to prove *Ogyges* and *Cadmus* to have been one and the same Man: But this Opinion not being sufficiently attested, we are to consider *Cadmus*, with-<sup>Cadmus</sup> out any relation to the other, as the first King <sup>the first</sup> of *Boeotia*, and conclude, that he founded, or <sup>King of</sup> *Thebes*.  
at least rebuilt the City, calling it *Thebes*, from <sup>A. M.</sup> the City of that Name in *Egypt*, and the Castle, <sup>2555.</sup> *Cadmea*. He is generally reputed the Son of *Agenor* Brother of *Belus*, *Danaus's* Father: So that from his Family, and several other Circumstances, it might be inferr'd he was originally an *Ægyptian*, tho' he is traced more immediately from *Phœnicia*, where he was settled for some time, and which is said to have taken its Name from his Brother *Phœnix*. There is another probable Conjecture, that he was of the Family of the *Cadmonites* mention'd by *Moses*, who were the same with the *Hivites*: And his Time falling in with that of *Joshua*, seems to confirm his leading into *Greece* a Colony of those *Canaanites*, or *Phœnicians*, who were expell'd by the *Israelites*. At least this looks more plausible than the Account the Poets give of his  
Travels,

*Letters  
brought in-  
to Greece.*

Travels, in search of his Sister *Europa*. I have in the former Chapter endeavour'd to account for her Arrival and settling in *Crete*. And as to her Brother, the Opinion which seems to come nearest to the Truth, is, that he went with a design to erect a Kingdom, and plant a Colony of *Phœnicians* in *Europe*; making the Recovery of his Sister only a Pretence for his Wandering, 'till he could fix upon a Place for his purpose. To him are ascrib'd sixteen Letters of the *Greek* Alphabet; which that he brought with him, appears from their Order, Names, and Character, all which bear a near Resemblance to the old *Phœnician*, or *Hebrew* Letters. So that he was not properly the Inventor, as he is call'd; but only form'd them from his own Language, as 'tis probable the *Phœnicians* had before form'd theirs from the *Ægyptian*. For to *Ægypt* is chiefly owing the Original of most kinds of Arts, and religious Rites, which were propagated in *Europe*: But as the Convenience of Ports and Shipping, gave the *Phœnicians* the most early Opportunities of dispersing them, for this reason they often ran away with the Honour of Invention. *Cadmus* being thus settled, whether he afterwards subdued the *Illyrians*, and reign'd there, or whether he died at *Thebes*, 'tis certain he left the Kingdom to his Son *Polydorus*.

He had by the Daughter of *Nyctæus* a Son *Labdacus*, call'd *Labdacus*, whom being under age at his Death,

Death, he left to the Care of his Father-in-law. *Nycteus's* other Daughter *Antiope* was stole; upon which he engag'd in a Quarrel with the *Sicyonians*, and was kill'd. At his Death he assign'd over his Charge of the young King to his Brother *Lycus*, who executed it so faithfully, that *Labdacus* also dying soon after he was of age, committed his Infant-Son *Laius* to his <sup>Laius</sup> Protection. *Lycus* prosecuting his Brother's Quarrel with the *Sicyonians*, got his Neice *Antiope* into his Hands: Upon which her two Sons, *Amphion* and *Zethus*, march'd against *Thebes*, in order to revenge their Mother's ill Treatment. *Lycus* was kill'd in the Battle, the City taken, and the young King being privately convey'd away, the Brothers possess'd the Kingdom. This *Amphion* is he, who is said to have built the <sup>Amphion and Zethus</sup> Walls of *Thebes* by his Harmony. 'Tis probable he might fortify it, to defend his Title: But the proper Meaning is, that by the force of Oratory, he work'd upon a rude illiterate People to confirm him in his Usurpation: And this Interpretation is in a great measure applicable to most of the famous Musicians of the first Ages. But the Families of *Amphion* and *Zethus*, by Pestilence, and other Casualties, in a few Years became extinct; and the *Thebans* restor'd the Kingdom to *Laius*. He marry'd *Jocasta*, the Daughter of *Menaceus*, and had by her a Son, by whom, the Oracle told him, he should be kill'd. To prevent which, he expos'd

pos'd the Child in the Woods, having first bor'd Holes in his Feet to fetter him, which occasion'd such a Swelling, that from thence he afterwards had the Name of *Oedipus*; but he was preserv'd by the Shepherds, and brought up at *Corinth*. When he was grown up, he had a mind to inform himself concerning his Parentage; and it happen'd, that *Laius* was no less inquisitive to know what was become of his Son. Accordingly they set out at the same time to consult the Oracle, and met in *Phocis*; where upon disputing the Way, or some such trivial Quarrel, *Laius* was kill'd by his Son *Oedipus*, neither of 'em having the least Knowledge of the other.

Upon the Death of *Laius*, the Throne was usurp'd by *Creon*, *Jocasta's* Brother, 'till another Accident made way for *Oedipus*, which was his explaining the Riddle of the Monster *The Mon-Sphinx*. What that Creature was, is of more Difficulty than Importance to determine, being by some thought a notorious Robber, by *Pausanias*, a Bastard-Daughter of *Laius*, and by others preferr'd for her Wisdom, to examine Pretenders to the Crown, and to punish those with Death, who could not make out their Claim. The Parts, and Qualities of several Creatures are employ'd by the Poets in her Description; and by the *Agyptians* she is made an *Hieroglyphick* of Wisdom and Strength. The *Enigma* propos'd, was to tell, *What it was, that went*

went in the Morning upon four Legs, at Noon upon two, and at Night upon three. *Oedipus* interpreted it, Of a Man, who in his Infancy crawls upon his Hands and Feet; in his Maturity goes upright upon his Legs; and in his old Age uses a Staff. Upon which Solution, according to Agreement, he marry'd *Jocasta*, and obtain'd the Kingdom, being still in a profound Ignorance of what he had done. But at last the whole Mystery was disclos'd, that he had kill'd his Father, and marry'd his Mother: Whereupon she immediately hang'd herself, and he tore out his Eyes with Distraction, or rather spent the sad Remainder of his Life in Exile, or a very close Retirement.

But the Death of *Oedipus* was far from putting an End to the Miseries of his Family. He left two Sons, *Eteocles*, and *Polynices*, and as many Daughters, all by *Jocasta*, as *Diodorus* affirms against the Opinion of others, who assign the Daughters another Mother. The two <sup>*Eteocles and Polynices.*</sup> Brothers disputed the Succession, and agreed to govern by turns. The first Year was allotted to *Eteocles* as Eldest; which being expir'd, he would not resign: Whereupon *Polynices* applied himself to *Adrastus* King of *Argos*, whose Daughter he had marry'd. *Adrastus* espous'd the Quarrel; and there being with him *Tydeus*, the Father of *Diomedes*, who had also marry'd another of his Daughters, and fled to him for Refuge, he promis'd to re-instate them both; and

and first dispatch'd *Tydeus* to *Thebes* to remonstrate in behalf of *Polynices*. *Eteocles* intercepted his Journey by an Ambush of fifty Men, whom he defeated, and return'd to *Argos*.

*The Theban War.* Hereupon War was immediately declar'd; and seven famous Captains undertook an Expedition against *Thebes*; *Adrastus*, *Polynices*, and *Tydeus*, who were more immediately concern'd, being join'd by *Amphiaraus*, *Capaneus*, *Hippomedon*, and *Parthenopæus*. This war is the first of any Moment, that happen'd in *Greece*, being about thirty Years before that of *Troy*; and is look'd upon but as a Prelude to it. Tho' as it has employ'd the Wits of many ancient Poets, and *Antimachus* particularly in *Plato's* Time publish'd twenty four Books only of the Preparations of this Siege, it seems to have made a greater Noise in the World, than through such a vast distance of Time we are sensible of. The Army was chiefly rais'd by *Adrastus*; but the other Confederates brought in their Quota's, and the chief Command was assign'd to *Amphiaraus*, who had marry'd *Adrastus's* Sister.

In this Infancy of War, we have no warrantable Accounts of any thing like a regular Siege. But the Captains being arriv'd at *Thebes*, dispos'd themselves with the Companies under their Command to attack the seven Gates of the City: Which being guarded by as many Officers within, the *Thebans* made a Sally, and were beat back to the Walls, which *Capaneus* mounted by

*Capaneus*  
kill'd.

by a sort of Scaling-ladder, but was beat down with Stones by the besieg'd, and kill'd; and this undoubtedly gave rise to the Story of his being struck dead with Thunder-bolts. Upon this ill Success of *Capaneus*, the rest retreated, and many of 'em were slain in the Pursuit. After this, the two Brothers agreed to decide the Quarrel in their own Persons; and fought so obstinately, that they were both mortally wounded; whereupon a general Engagement was renew'd, wherein the *Argives* were intirely defeated, with the loss of all their Captains, but *Adrastus*, who sav'd himself by Flight. Not but the *Thebans* had suffer'd very much in the Battle, and paid so dear for their Conquest, that a *Cadmean Victory* became a Proverb.

Upon the Death of the two Brothers, *Creon* again usurp'd the Throne, tho' it was under a Pretence of Guardianship to *Leodamas*, the Son of *Eteocles*. He would not suffer the Bodies of the slain to be bury'd, till the *Athenians*, who were chiefly noted for their Humanity, came at the Request of *Adrastus* with an Army, and did it by Force. It savour'd so much of Barbarity, to suffer any ill Treatment to the dead Bodies of their Enemies, that it became a standing Law of Arms to inter them. Which natural Custom, tho' it was at first taken up out of Decency, was afterwards improv'd into Superstition; for it became an Establish'd Opinion, that the

the Souls of those who were unbury'd, wander'd about, and could not gain Admittance into *Elysium*.

*The War  
renew'd.*

As to what further concerns the War, the Quarrel which seem'd to be at an end, was in ten Years reviv'd by the *Epigoni*, or Sons of the seven Captains; who being grown up, resolv'd to revenge their Fathers Deaths, and join'd in another Expedition against *Thebes*. By the Advice of the Oracle they chose *Alcmaeon*, the Son of *Amphiaraus*, their General; and under his Conduct spoil'd and haras'd the Country, till the *Thebans* gave them Battle: Wherein their King *Leodamas* kill'd *Ægialeus*, the Son of *Adrastus*, but was himself soon after slain, or put to flight. Upon which the Citizens offer'd to Capitulate, and took occasion to convey themselves by Night out of the Town; which when

*Thebes  
taken.*

the *Epigoni* found they had quitted, they enter'd, plunder'd, and demolish'd it: Tho' some say it was preserv'd by *Thersander* the son of *Polynices*; which looks most probable, because he succeeded and reign'd there, carrying a Body of *Thebans* to the *Trojan* War, wherein he was kill'd; and his Son *Tisamenus* being young,

*Thersander.*

*Peneleus.*

*Peneleus* was substituted in his Room, but rather as Captain of the *Bæotian* Forces, than King of *Thebes*. However, he also fell in that Expedition, and by that means put *Tisamenus's* Title out of Dispute: So that he enjoy'd the Crown, and

*Tisamenus.*

*Autosion.*

left it to his Son *Autosion*, who quitted *Thebes*, and



and made way for *Damafitbon*, the Son of *Ophe-*<sup>Damafit-</sup>  
*tas*, and Grandson of *Peneleus*. To him suc-<sup>hon.</sup>  
ceeded *Ptolomæus*, and last of all *Xanthus*, who<sup>Ptolomæ-</sup>  
being kill'd by *Melanthus*, (as will appear in my<sup>us.</sup>  
Account of *Athens*) put an end to the *Theban*<sup>Xanthus</sup>  
Monarchy.<sup>the last</sup>  
King.  
A. M.  
2877.

This Kingdom as it was the last erected, so it was of the shortest continuance: And tho' we cannot assign the length of each Reign, it is certain, that in the whole it did not stand much above three hundred Years from *Cadmus* to *Xanthus*: Upon whose Death it became a Commonwealth. And tho' it does not appear under what Form it was at first settled; yet we are assur'd it was in the nature of a *Democracy* in its most flourishing Age, when *Thebes* became one of the leading States, and in her turn put in for the Sovereignty of *Greece*.



C H A P. VI.

*The Kingdom and Commonwealth of Athens, to the intire Subversion of the Regal Power, by the Expulsion of Hippias.*

*Containing the Space of 1046 Years.*

FROM the first peopling of *Attica*, till the time of King *Ogyges*, we have no Account of any thing that pass'd there. *Plato* in-

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deed

deed says, the *Athenian* Power and Glory was very great in those Days; that those early Inhabitants were excellently skill'd both in civil and military Affairs, were govern'd by just and wholsom Laws, and liv'd in far greater Splendor, than they had arriv'd to in his time. But he mentions this only as a general Tradition; and there not being the least Footsteps of any thing to prove it, we may look upon it as a Story devis'd by the *Athenians*, to support the Credit of their Antiquity.

There are also several Kings mention'd as reigning in *Attica*, between the time of *Ogyges* and *Cecrops*, with some Particulars recorded of them; as that from *Atteus*, one of them, some will have *Attica* to have been formerly call'd *Atte*. But they are rejected by very ancient Historians; and the most warrantable way of accounting for that Interval, is, that *Attica* was so much wasted by the *Ogygian Deluge*, and its Inhabitants reduc'd to so small a Number, that they liv'd an hundred and ninety Years, from *Ogyges* to *Cecrops*, without any King, at all.

*Cecrops*  
the Founder  
of Athens.  
A. M.  
2448.

To *Cecrops* therefore we must ascribe the Foundation of *Athens*; which is plac'd in the Reign of *Triopas* King of *Argos*, about three hundred and seventy two Years before the Destruction of *Troy*, and the Year of the World 2448. Some make him a Native, but he is generally thought an *Egyptian*, and the *Athenians*

*nians* were from him reckon'd an *Ægyptian* Colony, planted by the *Saitæ*, who came with him from one of the Mouths of *Nile*. He is the first recorded to have cross'd the Sea, and settled in *Greece*: But as the *Ægyptians* had at that time little or no Knowledge of Sea-Affairs, it seems most probable, that he came immediately from *Phœnicia*, which was more commodiously seated for the Improvement of Navigation. But as yet the *Phœnicians* themselves us'd only a larger sort of Boats, which were found out by King *Erythras* among the Islands in the *Red Sea*.

There are several fabulous Reasons given for *His Name* his Name of *Diphyes*, as consisting of two Forms, *of Diphyes*. Serpentine and Human: But the most probable is, that he was born in *Ægypt*, and reign'd in *Greece*, and was acquainted with the Language, and Customs of both Countries. The People of *Attica*, who lay dispers'd according to the most ancient way of living in *Greece*, he collected into twelve Towns, (tho' some ascribe this to the second *Cecrops*) constituted among them one Form of Government, and took upon himself the Title of King. He then laid the Model of a City, which he design'd as a Seat of Residence to his new-rais'd Kingdom; and as the most commodious Place for it, he pitch'd upon a Rock situate in a large Plain near the middle of *Attica*, calling both the City and Territory round it after his own Name, *Cecropia*. When after-

wards the adjacent Plains were fill'd with Buildings, this was the *Acropolis*, or Citadel that commanded them.

*Of the Religion of Greece.*

He first introduc'd a Form of Religion, and prescrib'd to the People both the Objects, and Modes of Worship, erecting Altars, and Statues in Honour of the Gods, particularly of *Jupiter* and *Minerva*; from the latter of which, call'd *Athene*, the City took its Name; and who was always thought to preside more immediately over *Athens*, than any other Part of *Greece*. As he seems to have paid more peculiar Honour to *Minerva*, this may confirm the Opinion of his coming out of *Ægypt*, since she was the noted favourite Deity of the *Saitæ*, who came with him. And indeed there seems to be such an exact Conformity between the *Grecian* and *Ægyptian* Rites and Ceremonies of Worship, that *Ægypt* has been look'd upon as the chief Fountain of all the *Grecian* Superstition. Some there are who fetch a great Part of it out of *Thrace*, and ascribe it to *Orpheus* as the Author. This too may be true in some Measure: But that the whole *System* of the *Grecian* Religion should be borrow'd either from *Thrace* or *Ægypt*, or any one Country, will appear very improbable to those who consider the great Variety of Religions in *Greece*, where almost every City had different Gods and different Modes of Worship. 'Tis more probable, that *Greece* being inhabited by Colonies from divers

divers Nations, might borrow from every one of these some Part of their Religious Ceremonies; which from a People so excessively superstitious, must needs receive daily Improvements, 'till at last they were not content to worship their ancient Deities, but frequently consecrated new ones of their own making; and besides these, assum'd into their Number the Gods of all the Nations with whom they had any Commerce; insomuch that even in *Homer's* time they amounted to thirty Thousand. To this we may add their *Feast of all the strange Gods*, which they religiously observ'd: And it was from the *Athenians* Fear of omitting any, that we meet with Altars erected by them to the *unknown Gods*. In short, the *Athenians* were the People who carry'd their Superstition highest, and were always refining upon Religion, till they brought it at last to nothing but Shew and Ceremony.

But to return to *Cecrops*, his next Care was Athens <sup>divided into four Tribes.</sup> of the Civil Government; where for the better Administration of Justice, and the Promotion of mutual Intercourse among his Subjects, he divided them into four *Tribes*; the Names of which were *Cecropis*, *Autoethon*, *Altea*, and *Paralia*. Thus finding them more united into a Body, and increased by Foreigners, he instituted a Poll, causing every Man to cast a Stone into a Place appointed for that purpose, and found the Number amount to twenty

Thousand. But the Soil being naturally unfruitful, and the People not yet skill'd in Husbandry, such Multitudes must in a short time have been reduc'd to the greatest Extremities, had not *Cecrops* taught 'em something of Navigation, and thereby supply'd them with Corn from *Sicily* and *Africk*. He is also reputed the Author of several good Laws and Constitutions, particularly concerning Marriage, whereas before promiscuous Love was allow'd.

*The Council  
of Arcopagus.*

The Foundation of the *Areopagus* is plac'd under the Reign of *Cecrops*, or his immediate Successors; tho' some bring it as low as *Solon*. But this Opinion cannot hold, because *Solon* in one of his own Laws mentions Judgments pass'd in this Court, before he had reform'd the Commonwealth. The Reason of the Mistake might be, that *Solon* new-modell'd it, extending its Power and Privileges in Opposition to the *Ephetae*, another more rigorous Court, improv'd, if not instituted by *Draco*. This Senate took its Name from the Place in which it was wont to be assembled, being an Hill near the Citadel sacred to *Mars*. It was one of their most famous Courts of Judicature; and was constituted of Men of the highest Stations in the Commonwealth, as remarkable for their Virtue and Integrity, as their Riches and Quality. For this Reason it was stil'd *The most sacred and venerable Tribunal*; and their Justice was so eminently known throughout all *Greece*, that

that Foreign States, when any Difference happen'd among them, would often appeal to the *Areopagites*, and stand to their Determination. And *Demosthenes* tells us, that to his time, neither *Plaintiff* nor *Defendent* had any just Reason to be dissatisfy'd with their Proceedings. This Court is recorded as the first that sat upon Life and Death; and the Trial of wilful Murder seems to have been the original Design of its Institution: Tho' in later Ages all Incendiaries, Assassines, Conspirators, and Deferters of their Country, and most capital Causes in general, came under its Cognizance. The Opinion the State had of the Gravity and Sanctity of its Members gain'd them an unlimited Power, inso-much that according to *Solon's* Regulation of this Assembly, the Inspection and Custody of the Laws, the Management of the publick Funds, and Education of the Youth was committed to them. Their Power extended to Persons of all Ages and Sexes, to punish the Idle and Profligate, and reward the Sober and Industrious, as they thought fit. Besides this, Matters of Religion, Blasphemy against the Gods, Contempt of the holy Mysteries, and all sorts of Impiety, as also the Consecration of new Gods, Erection of Temples and Altars, and Introduction of new Ceremonies into divine Worship, were referr'd to the Judgment of this Court. This was the chief Business of this Senate: For they seldom intermeddled with the Management of other

publick Affairs, but in Cases of great and imminent Danger; and then the Commonwealth had Recourse to them as the last and surest Refuge. Thus was their Authority preserv'd to them intire till the time of *Pericles*, who not having born the Office of *Archon*, could not be admitted among them; and therefore employ'd all his Interest and Cunning to undermine them: Which he did so effectually, that his Contempt of them serv'd to lessen their Dignity; and from that time the same Excesses and Vices, which were practis'd in the City, crept in among the *Areopagites* themselves, till by Degrees they quite lost their former Power and Esteem.

*The Deu-  
calionean  
Deluge.*

Under *Cecrops* happen'd the great *Deluge* in Part of *Greece*, which is known by the Name of *Deucalion's Flood*, who reign'd at that time in *Theffaly*, and whose Country was chiefly affected with it. But it is placed by some Chronologers under the Reign of *Cranæus* his Successor. It is thought that *Deucalion* sav'd many in Boats upon Mount *Parnassus*; and that this gave occasion to the Fable of his re-peopling the Earth. But this Flood agrees in so many Particulars with that of *Noah*, that even the *Grecian* Account of it requires only the Change of Names, to render it in the *Language* of the *Scriptures*. And so, notwithstanding the Pains some have taken to place the *Flood* of *Ogyges* above two hundred Years higher than this, yet all the sober Inquirers into Antiquity have not consider'd them as distinct



distinct and partial Deluges, but only as the Remainder of the *Universal one* under *Noah*; the Memory of which was preserv'd under *Ogyges* in *Attica*, and *Deucalion* in *Thessaly*, as Men of the most remote Antiquity in each Country. The Parallel holds yet farther between *Noah* and *Deucalion*: For as the first repopled the World by his Posterity, so the Family of the latter was of proportionable Fame and Extent in *Greece*. He had two Sons, *Hellen* and *Amphictyon*; the first (whom we have already had occasion to mention) left three, *Xuthus*, *Æolus*, and *Dorus*. *Æolus* succeeded his Father, and is to be consider'd as Founder of the *Æolians*; *Dorus* seated himself in *Histiæotis*, about the Mountains *Ossa* and *Olympus*; his Posterity afterwards got footing in *Peloponnesus*, and pass'd under the Name of the *Dorians*; and *Xuthus* will be consider'd with relation to the Extent of his Family in *Athens*. The Family of Deucalion.

*Cecrops* died after a Reign of fifty Years; and his Son *Erechthon* dying before him, he was succeeded by *Cranaus*, a Man of the greatest Sway and Figure at that time in *Athens*. Cranaus. The Country, which from *Cecrops* was call'd *Cecropia*, was from him call'd *Cranae*, and afterwards from his Daughter *Atthis*, *Attica*: And the Names of the four Tribes he chang'd into *Cranaïs*, *Atthis*, *Mesogæa*, and *Diacris*. After he had reign'd nine Years, he was expell'd the Kingdom by *Amphictyon* the other Son of *Deucalion*, who had married one of his Daughters. But

it

*The Council  
of the Am-  
phictyons.*

it has been question'd, whether he did not rather reign in *Thessaly*, than in *Attica*: And one Argument for it, is his instituting the *Amphictyons* the famous *National Council*, or *Diet of Greece*; which was first assembled in *Thessaly*, near the Straits of *Thermopylae*, and from the Place, was called *Pylea*, and the Members, *Pylagoræ*. But *Acrisius* King of *Argos*, afterwards either remov'd this, or constituted a new one at *Delphi* in *Phocis*; which lying in the middle of *Greece*, the Delegates of the twelve Cities, which compos'd this Assembly, were more easily conven'd upon any emergent occasion. Their usual Times of meeting were every Spring and Autumn, or oftner, if Necessity requir'd; and their Business was to decide the Quarrels and Differences that happen'd between any of their Cities, or Commonwealths. Their Authority was very great, and their Determinations held so inviolable, that those who rejected them were proceeded against as the common Enemies of *Greece*. This was look'd upon as a very necessary Institution among a People made up of so many different States, and jarring Interests, and the best, if not the only Expedient, to cultivate a good Understanding among themselves, and to proceed with Vigour and Resolution against their Enemies.

*Account of  
Bacchus.*

In this King's Reign, *Dionysus*, or *Bacchus*, is said to have come into *Attica*. Some have taken him for the *Ægyptian Osiris*; and others for a Prince of *Arabia Felix*, about the Mountain *Nysa*.

All

All that can be affirm'd with any colour of Certainty from the *Grecian* Accounts of him, is, that he came with his Retinue out of the *East*, and was worshipp'd in *Greece* as the Inventor of many useful Arts, particularly of preserving Bees, and dressing the Vine. His Story is made up of Patches of the *Eastern Tradition*, which was probably convey'd to *Greece* by the *Phenicians*, who accompany'd *Cadmus* thither; and for that reason he pass'd for the Grandson of *Cadmus* by his Daughter *Semele*. From the Analogy he bears with *Noah*, *Moses*, and *Nimrod*, some have concluded that one, or all of them, were shadow'd out to the *Grecians* under the Name and Person of *Bacchus*. And that most of the Passages which are ascrib'd to him, are a plain Corruption of the *Eastern Story* in general, if not of the *Scripture* itself, appears from one remarkable Instance of his Birth, where he is said to have *been taken out of Jupiter's Thigh*; which is only an *Hebrew Phrase* for the ordinary way of Procreation.

*Amphictyon* after ten Years Reign was also expell'd by *Eriethonius*; who besides the fabulous Account of his Birth, is said to have had *Snakes Feet*; which gave occasion of ascribing to him the Invention of Chariots to hide them. But this is more properly owing to the *Panathe-<sup>The Panathenæa.</sup>nae*, which was also instituted by *Eriethonius*, where the running with Chariots was one of the Performances. This was a Festival in honour of *Minerva*, and was at first call'd *Athous*; and when

when afterwards reviv'd, and amplify'd by *Theſeus*, who had collected the People of *Attica* into one City, it was call'd *Panatheneæ*, or the *Sacrifice of all the united Athenians*. There were two Solemnities of this name; the Great One celebrated once in five Years, and the Lesser every Year, and were much the same with the *Roman Quinquatria*.

*Of the Festivals of Greece.*

Here it may not be amiss to observe of the *Grecian Festivals* in general, that they were a great part of their Religion, being instituted chiefly in honour of their Gods and Heroes, who had rescu'd their Country from Slavery and Oppression, or dy'd in its Defence. And without doubt this great Encouragement of transmitting Mens Names to Posterity, gave birth to the many generous Enterprises of Antiquity; tho' they were in time unhappily improv'd into *Religion* and *Fable*, 'till they pass'd at last for downright *Knight-Errantry*. As their Religion was at first more pure and simple, and less pompous, so their Festivals were few: But in latter Ages, and particularly in *Athens*, where their Gods were increas'd almost to the number of Men, the Number and Magnificence of their Festivals rose in proportion. For as they formerly consisted of little more than a Sacrifice, they had afterwards Games, Processions, and a thousand superstitious Observances in Imitation of the fabulous Actions of their Gods, which were introduc'd and practis'd to the vast Charge  
of

of the Publick. But to return to *Eriſthonius*, he is ſaid to have brought Silver firſt into *Attica*; or at leaſt to have ſtamp'd it in the nature of Coin: And after a Reign of fifty Years, he left the Kingdom to his Son *Pandion*.

*Pandion I.*

The Crown had hitherto been poſſeſs'd by Craft or Violence. This *Pandion* was the firſt, who held it in right of Succeſſion: And tho' there afterwards happen'd ſome Diſturbances and Uſurpations in the Government, yet from him it became properly an hereditary Kingdom. In his Reign *Triptolemus* is ſaid to have taught the *Athenians* to ſow and manure the Ground; which he learnt from *Ceres*, the ſame with the *Egyptian Iſis*, who is thought at this time to have come into *Attica*; and in honour of whom were inſtituted the *Eleuſinia*, ſo call'd from *Eleuſis* a Borough-Town of *Attica*. This Feſtival was celebrated with the greateſt Secrecy and Solemnity of any in *Greece*. It was call'd the *Myſteries*, by way of Eminence, without any other note of Diſtinction; and it was Death to divulge the leaſt part of the Ceremonies. But the Goddeſs, and her Worſhip, is by ſome plac'd under *Ereſtheus* the Succeſſor of *Pandion*: And *Ereſtheus*, the Inſtitution being wholly *Egyptian*, ſeems to make for thoſe, who fancy him alſo an *Egyptian*. But he is generally thought a Native of *Attica*, and that he ſucceeded his Father *Pandion* after a Reign of forty Years. Sir *Iſaac Newton* is of opinion, that *Eriſthonius* beforemention'd, and this

this his Son *Pandion* are the same with *Ereäbeus* and his Son *Pandion*, who succeeded him: According to this Opinion, *Cecrops* the Second, who generally passes for the Son and Successor of *Ereäbeus*, and Father of the second *Pandion*, must likewise be excluded. However, I have inserted all these Kings in the Catalogue, and in the Order of Succession, as they are commonly placed, leaving the Reader to determine for himself in this, as in other cases of the like nature, which will not admit of any certain Proof.

*Ereäbeus* had War with the *Chalcidians* of *Eubœa*; and by the Assistance of *Xuthus*, the Son of *Hellen*, who had fled out of *Thessaly* with a great part of his Father's Treasure, defeated them. To reward which Service, *Ereäbeus* gave him his Daughter *Creusa*, by whom he had *Ion*, who was equally useful to him in a second War he had with the *Eleusinians*, who were assisted by *Eumolpus* King of *Thrace*. *Ion* gain'd so much Power and Credit in the Commonwealth, that some fancy he succeeded his Grandfather in the Kingdom: At least he had all the Marks of Sovereignty, but the Title, changing the Name of the Country, and the four Tribes, as several of the former Kings had done. He had a numerous Progeny, which, when *Attica* was over-stock'd with Inhabitants, were sent out as a Colony into *Peloponnesus*; from whence they were expell'd by the *Achæans*, descended from *Achæus* the Brother of *Ion*, and return'd to

to *Athens*; and were afterwards led out into the *Lesser Asia* by the Sons of *Codrus*, where they form'd several distinct Colonies, but pass'd under the common Name of the *Ionians*. This is the *Grecian* Account of *Ion*; but it is built upon such Uncertainties, that it still leaves room for the Opinion above-mention'd, that he might be the same with *Javan*, the fourth Son of *Japheth*, who is said to have come into *Greece* after the *Confusion of Babel*, and seated himself in *Attica*.

But to return to *Erethens*, some say he fell in the Battle with the *Eleusnians*. It is certain he dy'd in the fiftieth Year of his Reign; and being a Prince of great Justice and Valour, was rank'd among the Heroes of those early Times, and had divine Honours paid him after his Death. The People of *Athens* who had hitherto pass'd under the Name of *Cecropidae*, were from him call'd *Erethidae*. His Daughter *Orithya* was taken away by *Boreas* a *Thracian*; which Rape the Poets ascribe to the North-wind, because *Thrace* is situate north from *Athens*.

Upon the Death of *Erethens*, there arose a Contest among his three Sons, *Cecrops*, *Metion*, and *Pandorus*, about the Succession. They refer'd the Matter to *Xuthus*, who adjudg'd it to *Cecrops*, as eldest: But the rest were not satisf- Cecrops II  
fy'd with this Determination; upon which *Xuthus* quitted *Athens*, and went into *Egiptia*,  
where

where he dy'd. This *Cecrops* led a Colony into *Eubœa*; he is also said to have built *Rhodes*; and after a Reign of forty Years left the Kingdom to his Son *Pandion*.

**Pandion II** *Pandion* the Second was expell'd the Kingdom by the Sons of *Metion* his Uncle, and fled for Refuge to *Pylas*, King of *Megara*, whose Daughter he had marry'd. There he succeeded his Father-in-law, and left four Sons, *Ægeus*, *Lycus*, *Pallas*, and *Nisus*; who, after their Father's Death, recover'd his Dominions by driving the *Metionidae* out of *Athens*. Some say they restor'd him before he dy'd, and that at his Death he divided his Kingdom among them in four equal Proportions. But this not being generally agreed on, nor which part fell to each Man's Lot, we may look upon it as a Division of their own; and that *Ægeus*, in effect, succeeded his Father *Pandion*, after a Reign of twenty five Years. His Brothers had their Shares allotted them for assisting him in his War with the *Metionidae*; but he had undoubtedly the supreme Power with the Sovereignty of *Athens* assign'd to him as the eldest. Yet it was not without secret Murmurings among the rest; and the rather, because *Ægeus* was generally thought to be only an adopted Son of *Pandion*. But those who gave him the greatest Umbrage, were the *Pallantide*, the fifty Sons of his Brother *Pallas*: And his want of Children, the Cause for which they despis'd him, was that which withheld



beld them from breaking out into open Rebellion, in hopes the Crown would of course devolve upon them after his Death. *Ægeus*, who had marry'd two Wives, and had Issue by neither, went to *Delphi* to consult the Oracle about Posterity. The Answer being somewhat obscure, in his Return he went to *Pittheus* the Son of *Pelops* at *Trezene*, a Man of the greatest Knowledge and Wisdom in his time, to have it explain'd. *Pittheus* entertain'd him, and however he interpreted the Oracle, it was with his Consent that *Ægeus* lay with his Daughter *Æthra*, and left her with child of *Theseus*.

*Theseus* prov'd a Youth of great Expectation; and when he was about sixteen Years old, his Mother acquainted him with his Original, and sent him to *Athens*. The Country was so infested with Thieves and Murderers, that it was a very dangerous Journey; yet he chose rather to go by Land than Sea. He was secretly fir'd with the Fame of *Hercules*, to whom he was also ally'd by his Mother: And as he had clear'd the Ways of a great part of these Robbers, so *Theseus* would endeavour to suppress the rest. Accordingly he destroy'd several in his Way, and observ'd a Method in Imitation of *Hercules*, whom he propos'd as his constant Pattern, to punish them after the same manner they had treated others. At last he arriv'd at *Athens*, where he was entertain'd as a Stranger, but had like to have been poison'd by his Fa-

ther, through the Persuasion of *Medea*, who was fled to him from *Corinth*. But upon his shewing *Aegeus* the Sword which he had left with his Mother as a Pledge, he threw down the Poison; embrac'd him, and own'd him publicly for his Son and Successor. This serv'd to inflame the seditious Murmurs of the *Pallantide*, who highly resented it, that first *Aegeus*, the adopted Son of *Pandion*; and not related to the Family of *Eretheus*, and then *Theseus*, a perfect Stranger, and a Bastard too, should obtain the Crown of their Ancestors. Upon which, finding their Hopes utterly defeated, they broke out into open Acts of Hostility; but were soon vanquish'd, and dispers'd by the Courage and Conduct of *Theseus*. Who, to keep himself in Action, and gain the Favour of the People, encounter'd several monstrous Creatures which infested the Country; and particularly the *Marathonian Bull*, which he overcame, and bringing it alive in triumph through the City, sacrific'd it to *Apollo*. His next Exploit was the killing of the *Minotaur*, a Monster kept by *Minos* King of *Crete*. The Story is told, that *Androgeos* the Son of *Minos*, coming to the Feast of *Athenae* at *Athens*, excell'd all his Antagonists in the Exercises perform'd there, and contracted an Intimacy with the *Pallantide*. *Aegeus* fearing lest he should join with them to deprive him of his Kingdom, made away with him: Which so incens'd *Minos*, that he declar'd

clar'd War against the *Athenians*. And being at that time Master of the *Grecian Seas*, gave them so much Disturbance, that they were glad at last to comply with the Advice of the Oracle, and send him, by way of Composition, an annual Tribute, for the space of seven or nine Years, of seven young Men, and as many Virgins, to be devour'd (as the Fable runs) by this *Minotaur*; but rather to be kill'd, or kept in Slavery by *Taurus*, appointed by *Minos* for that Office. At the third time of sending this Tribute, *Theseus* offer'd himself to go among the rest, in hopes to free his Country from this Slavery, by destroying the Monster. Accordingly he arriv'd at *Crete*, where he receiv'd of *Ariadne*, the Daughter of *Minos*, who fell in love with him, a Clue of Thread to conduct him through the Windings of the *Labyrinth*, where the *Minotaur* was kept: And having slain him, return'd with his Fellow-Captives in Triumph to *Athens*, and got the Tribute remitted. But in his Return, through an Excess of Joy, he forgot to hang out the White Sail, which should have been the Token of their Safety to *Ageus*, who sat expecting them upon the Top of a Rock: And as soon as their Ship came in view with the Black one, which they us'd to carry in token of their unavoidable Destruction, he knowing nothing of their Success, threw himself headlong into the Sea, which probably took its Name from him, and made way to

A. M. *Theseus's* Succession to the Crown after forty eight  
2770. Years Reign.

From *Cecrops* the First to this time, the  
*Athenian* Government suffer'd little Alteration.  
But *Theseus*, as he had freed his Country from  
foreign Slavery, and intestine Sedition, so now  
he resolv'd to regulate and new model the State.

*His Alterations in the State.* Yet being a wise, as well as powerful Prince,  
he knew that to attempt any considerable Change,  
he must proceed warily, and use all the gentle  
insinuating Methods, especially to a People who  
had so strong a Sense of their Liberty.

In the first place therefore, to remedy the In-  
convenience of having them dispers'd in Vil-  
lages, and canton'd up and down the Country,  
always quarrelling among themselves, and never  
assembled to consult for the publick Good, he  
collected all the Inhabitants of *Attica* into one  
City, which together with *Cecropia* the Regal  
Seat, he nam'd *Athens*. His Method to effect  
this, was to go from one Tribe to another, to  
appease their Differences, and propose his De-  
sign of a common Agreement between them.  
The poorer Sort, who could be no Losers by  
it, readily clos'd with his Advice: To those  
of Power and Interest he promis'd a Common-  
wealth; wherein reserving to himself only the  
Command of their Armies, and Custody of the  
Laws, there should be an equal Distribution of  
all things else among them, and the Power be  
lodg'd wholly in the People. The rest fearing  
his

his Power, which was already grown very formidable, and knowing his Courage and Resolution, chose rather to be persuaded, than forc'd into a Compliance.

His next Business, when he had brought them over thus far to his Proposal, was to dissolve all the distinct Courts of Justice, and Corporations belonging to the twelve Towns, and build one common *Prytaneum*, or Council-hall in the City. And with a Design to enlarge his City, he invited all Strangers to come and settle there, and enjoy equal Privileges with the Natives. Yet to prevent Confusion and Anarchy, upon such promiscuous Multitudes flowing in, he first divided the People into three distinct Ranks, of Nobles, Husbandmen, and Artificers. The Nobility he appointed as the Fountain of Magistracy; but the Choice belong'd in a great measure, if not wholly, to the People. To this first Rank he committed the Teaching and Interpretation of the Laws, and the Care of Religion; the whole City as to all other Matters being reduc'd to a sort of an Equality, the Nobles excelling in Honour, the Husbandmen in Profit, and the Artificers in Number.

*Theseus* having proceeded thus far with Success, in a manner divested himself, according to his Promise, of the Regal Power: Which a Man of so much Spirit and Bravery, and who had deserv'd so well of the State, might as

easily have extended, as diminish'd. Wherefore, tho' the *Genius* of the *Athenians* always ran high for Liberty; yet he seems rather to have comply'd with his own Inclination for popular Government, as best suited to the Scheme he had laid down. However, it was look'd upon as a generous Act of Resignation: And this, with his enlarging the City, and his many other signal Services, gain'd him the Title of *The Second Founder of Athens*. Not that it was yet a settled Commonwealth; but this was so fair an Advance towards it, that the People from that time continually got ground against the vain Attempts of some of the succeeding Kings, to recover the Power, with the Title of *Monarchy*.

Having laid this Foundation, he left it for others to build upon; and spent the rest of his Life in Search of new Adventures with *Hercules*, and the other Heroes of his Time. As *Hercules* had instituted the *Olympick Games* in honour of *Jupiter*, so did he the *Isthmian* in honour of *Neptune*, whose Son he pass'd for among those who could not otherwise account for his Birth, and the rather, because he was a great Encourager of Trade and Navigation. To his roving Temper, and Impatience of Ease, we must refer his *Romantick Voyage* into the *Euxine Sea* against the *Amazons* from amongst whom he got his Wife *Antiope*, or, as some call'd her, *Hippolyte*. This gave rise to the *Amazonian War*;

War; wherein those warlike Women besieg'd *Athens*, encamp'd, and gave the Citizens Battle within their very Walls; 'till at last a Peace was concluded by *Antiope's* means. But this War is so differently related, that some have fancy'd there were two Expeditions of that kind, and that *Antiope* and *Hippolyte* were two distinct Women. Neither must we omit his celebrated Friendship, which *Pirithous* the Son of *Ixion* began upon an hostile Interview, which struck them both with a secret Admiration of each others Person and Bravery. *Theseus*, when he was fifty Years old, join'd with him in stealing *Helena* the Daughter of *Tyndareus*, from *Sparta*, who falling to him by Lot, he carry'd her to his Mother at *Aphidnae*, to be kept there 'till she were marriageable. Then having agreed to procure another Wife for his Friend, they travell'd into *Epirus*, to steal the Daughter of *Aidonius*, King of the *Molossi*, whom the Fable calls *Pluto*; But he being inform'd of their Design, kill'd *Pirithous*, and imprison'd *Theseus*, 'till, at the Request of *Hercules*, he was set at liberty. But whilst he was engag'd in those foreign Adventures, *Menestheus* the Son of *Peteus*, and great Grandson of *Erethous*, took occasion, from his Absence, to ingratiate himself with the leading Men of *Athens*, and insinuated, that his late Change in the State was only a Project to enslave 'em under a Pretence of Liberty. And to favour his Design, it happen'd that *Castor* and

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*Pollux,*

*Pollux*, the Sons of *Tyndareus*, came at this time against *Athens*, in search of their Sister *Helena*: Who not finding her there, went to *Aphidne*, took the Town, and recover'd their Sister. Then by *Menestheus's* means the Brothers were honourably receiv'd into *Athens*: And when *Theseus* return'd, he found the Peoples Minds generally alienated, even to a Contempt of his Person and Authority. Upon which he sent his Children privately into *Eubæa*, and having solemnly curs'd the People of *Athens*, banish'd himself into the Island *Scyrus*; where the common Report is, that *Lycomedes* the King, either jealous of his Fame, or to gratify *Menestheus*, led him up to the Top of a Rock, as though to shew him the Country, and threw him down headlong. Thus dy'd *Theseus*, when he had reign'd thirty Years. He was by far the greatest King of *Athens*: And tho' he was so ungratefully abandon'd by his Subjects, yet succeeding Ages paid a just Reverence to his Relicks; and his Tomb was plac'd as a Refuge for Slaves, in memory, that whilst he liv'd his whole Care and Study was to redress Grievances, and relieve the Distress'd.

*Theseus's  
Death.*

*Menestheus* by this means got Possession of the Crown. He went with his Quota of fifty Ships to the *Trojan* War, where he grew famous for his Skill in military Affairs, being mention'd as the first who marshalled an Army in the Order of Rank and File. In his Return

*Menestheus.*



turn from *Troy* he died in the Isle of *Melos*, in the twenty third Year of his Reign: And was succeeded by *Demophon* the Son of *Theseus*, who with his Brother *Acamas* went to the Siege of *Troy*. In his Return he was driven upon the Coasts of *Thrace*, where *Phyllis* the Queen fell in Love with him; to whom he promis'd Marriage; after he had been to settle his Affairs at *Athens*: But not coming at the time appointed, she hang'd herself. The Court of Judicature, call'd *In Palladio*, was instituted in his Reign, and upon his Account. The Story runs, that some of the *Argives* under the Conduct of *Dio-medes*, being driven by Night upon the Coasts of *Attica*, and supposing it an Enemy's Country, went out to spoil and plunder it. The *Athenians* took the Alarm, and being united under the Conduct of *Demophon*, repuls'd the Invaders with great Loss. But upon the Approach of Day, *Acamas* finding among the dead Bodies, the *Palladium*, or Statue of *Minerva*, which was brought from *Troy*, discover'd the Mistake in having kill'd their Friends and Allies. Whereupon they referr'd the Quarrel to fifty *Athenians*, and as many *Argives*, whom they call'd *Ephetae*. And this seems to be the Original of the *Ephetae*, a Court re-instituted by *Draco*, in Opposition to the *Areopagus*; tho' their Business at first was only to inquire into involuntary Murders. *Demophon* after thirty three Years Reign, left the Kingdom to his Son

Oxyntes. Son *Oxyntes*. And he, after twelve more, to  
 Aphidas. his Son *Aphidas*; who reign'd but one Year,  
 Thymetes. being murder'd by his Bastard Brother *Thymetes*; who thereupon usurp'd the Kingdom, and  
 was the last of the *Eretridae* who reign'd in  
*Athens*. There was at this time a Dispute be-  
 tween the *Athenians* and *Boeotians*, about their  
 Confines, and it was propos'd by the latter,  
 that their two Kings should decide it. But  
*Thymetes* declining the Challenge, *Melanthus* a  
*Messenian* accepted it. Just as they were going  
 to engage, *Melanthus* cry'd out, *This is not*  
*according to our Agreement, Xanthus, to come*  
*provided with a Second, against me a single Man.*  
 At which *Xanthus* the *Boeotian* King looking  
 back to see who follow'd him, *Melanthus* ran  
 him through with his Lance. By this Strata-  
 gem he got the Victory, and with it the King-  
 dom of *Athens*, *Thymetes* either yielding it  
 voluntarily, or being depos'd for his Cowar-  
 dise, after he had reign'd eight Years. *Melan-*  
*thus* reign'd thirty seven; and left the Crown  
 to his Son *Codrus*, who enjoy'd it twenty one;  
 and then generously sacrific'd himself for the  
 Good of his Country. For the *Haraclide* hav-  
 ing made an Irruption into *Attica*, the Oracle  
 was consulted about it, and the Answer was,  
*That the Invaders should conquer, upon condition*  
*they did not kill the Athenian King.* Which *Co-*  
*drus* having notice of, disguis'd himself in the  
 Habit of a Peasant, and picking a Quarrel with  
 some

some of the Enemy provok'd them to kill him. Whereupon the *Athenians* sent an Herald to them to demand the Body of their King: Which Message struck such a Damp into them, that they immediately broke up their Camp and return'd home.

Thus fell *Codrus*, and with him the Title A. M. of King, which had continued, without any 2935. Interruption, four Hundred and eighty seven Years from *Cecrops* to *Codrus*. The *Athenians*, out of Reverence to his Memory, would suffer no more to govern by that Name: This at least was their Pretence, which they seldom wanted upon all Occasions to enlarge their Power, till at last they got it intirely into their own Hands. The Title of King was chang'd into that of *perpetual Archon*, or Prince during Life; and the Succession preserv'd from Father to Son. <sup>The perpetual Archons.</sup> Which was so gradual a Fall, that most Writers have rank'd these *Archons* among their Kings; tho' I think not so properly, because their Power was more precarious, they being oblig'd to give the People an Account of their Management, whenever they should demand it.

The first of these *perpetual Archons* was *Me-* Medon the *don* the eldest Son of *Codrus*. His Brother *Nileus* <sup>First.</sup> despis'd him because he was lame, and from thence took occasion to dispute the Government with him. The People would have made this a Pretence of putting them both by; and declar'd

declar'd they would have no King but *Jupiter*: So that during the time of this Contest there was a sort of *Theocracy* in *Athens*. But at last the Oracle giving it against *Nileus*, he, with the rest of his Brothers, led out the Colonies before-mention'd into *Asia*, and there founded the twelve famous Cities of the *Ionians*; which were *Ephesus*, *Miletus*, *Priene*, *Colophon*, *Myus*, *Teos*, *Lebedos*, *Clazomenæ*, *Erythræ*, *Phocæa*, with *Cbios* and *Samos*, belonging to the two Islands of these Names.

*From whom the rest were call'd Medontidæ.* *Medon* govern'd twenty Years, and after him succeeded twelve more of a regular Descent from him, and therefore surnamed *Medontidæ*.

Their Names were *Acastus*, who govern'd thirty-six Years, *Archippus* nineteen, *Thersippus* forty-one, *Phorbas* thirty, *Megacles* twenty-eight, *Diognetus* twenty-five, *Pherecles* nineteen, *Ariphron* twenty, *Thespius* twenty-seven, *Agamestor* seventeen, *Æschylus* twenty-three, and *Alcmaeon* two Years. There is scarce a memorable Action mention'd of any one of them; but by them the Government was carry'd on with Ease, and without Alteration, for the Space of above three Hundred Years.

This unactive Period of Time gives us an Opportunity of inquiring into the State of Science and Literature, which began now to display themselves in the more civiliz'd Parts of *Greece*. Poetry is in the first Place to be con-

*The first Age of Poetry.*

sider'd as it was the most ancient way of writing,

writing, and the chief Vehicle by which many other Parts of Knowledge were convey'd to Mankind. As for *Linus*, *Orpheus*, *Museus*, and the other Founders of the *fabulous Theology*, their Names have been deliver'd down to us with some general Marks of Esteem and Reverence: But their History is too suspicious and confus'd to admit of a serious Relation, since we cannot fix their Age or Country, and since the few Remains we have of them have been ascrib'd to others of a much later Date. Upon the whole, there are few so hardy to deny that there was any such thing as Poetry in *Greece* before *Homer*; but we have no sufficient Authority to begin our Account of it, but from him. And even here the Critics have been more industrious in settling the Time, and Country of this great Man, than in examining his Writings: and tho' they cannot decide the Controversy, their Attempts have not been altogether fruitless, inasmuch as they serve sufficiently to advance the Credit of his Works, which were the only Grounds of their Enquiry. Of all the Places which have contended for him, *Smyrna* carries the fairest Title: and he seems to have flourish'd between two and three hundred Years after the Destruction of *Troy*. As for those who place him below the Beginning of the *Olympiads*, it is not easily to be presum'd, that he, who took all imaginable Care to embellish his Poems with Descriptions, should

should omit so ornamental a Part as the *Olympick Games*, if he had been alive at the Celebration of them. To consider him in his Person and Fortune, he is represented as a blind, indigent *Bard*, strolling up and down the Country like a *Ballad-singer*. But the Image of his Mind gives us a noble Prospect of him : 'Tis there we view him in his full Proportion, with all the Advantages of Art and Nature, and reverence him as *The Prince and Father of the Grecian Poets*. Some have so far refin'd upon his Writings, as to pretend to draw from them the Original not only of all kinds of Poetry, but also of all Arts and Sciences, and Religion and Government. But we may easily allow him to have been the most *universal Genius* of his time, without making him the Founder of States and Kingdoms, and the Author of all Civility : and it is sufficient to secure his Fame to all Ages, that the Brightness and Loftiness of his Thoughts, the Strength and Beauty of his Images, the Dress of his Fictions, the Harmony of his Numbers, the Justness of his Characters, and the artificial Contexture of the whole, have carry'd the *Epick Poem* in its Infancy, if not at its Birth, to an almost inimitable Perfection.

Hesiod. *Hesiod*, who was originally of *Cuma* in *Æolia*, but remov'd young to *Asara* a little Village of *Bœotia*, is generally reckon'd the next Poet to *Homer*, as well in the Value of his Works as  
in

in the Period of his Age. Some make him the Elder of the two; others affirm they were contemporary, and that *Hesiod* carry'd the Prize from him in a poetical Contention. Upon which, *Lucian* makes a pleasant Remark, *That Homer had much the better on't, but yet Hesiod was the Victor.* Perhaps the Epigram upon which this Contest between them is grounded, may be supposititious; and *Hesiod* might flourish some Years after the other. But it is certainly a great Disadvantage to him to be plac'd so near to *Homer*, as if they were design'd for Rivals; whereas the Merit of *Hesiod* is of a quite different Stamp. He contented himself with the *Middle Style*, without aspiring to the *Sublime*; he chose rather to be delightful than pompous, and rather to speak properly than finely. As he affected nothing more than the Ease and Retirement of a Country Life, his *Genius* put him upon such Subjects as required the same easy Plainness and Gravity: And his Success in this kind of Writing is sufficient to justify his Pretensions to a second Place in Poetry. *Maximus* of *Tyre* tells a Story of him which argues him to have been very jealous of his Fame, or else a great Humourist. For observing a Potter, as he was at work, singing some of his Verses with an ill Accent and Cadence, he throws himself down upon his Pots and breaks 'em; at which the poor Fellow cries out, *Why do you spoil my Work? Because, says Hesiod, you spoil mine.*

To

*An Account  
of the O-  
lympick  
Games.*

To this Growth of Poetry, we may add another Effect of the general Tranquillity Greece enjoy'd at this Time, which was the Celebration of the *Olympick Games*, so call'd from *Olympia*, a City near which they were perform'd in the Plains of *Elis*. Some ascribe the first Institution of them to *Hercules* one of the *Idæi Dætyli*, and others to *Pisus*, of whom we have nothing left but the Name. But *Pelops* being more famous in History, is rather thought to have instituted them in Honour of *Jupiter*: And after him *Atreus*, *Hercules* the Son of *Alcmena*, *Oxylus* and others renew'd them. But as yet they were of no settled Date, being celebrated only upon some extraordinary Occasions, and without any remarkable Pomp and Solemnity. The first from whom they became famous, was *Iphitus* King of *Elis*, of the Posterity of *Hercules*, who restor'd them by the Advice of the Oracle. They were repeated every fifth Year; and hence the Revolution of four compleat Years, which was the Interval between each Solemnity, was call'd an *Olympiad*. But even after *Iphitus* they seem not to have been continu'd regularly at first, because that which generally passes for the first *Olympiad*, in which *Coræbus* of *Elis* won the Prize, was properly the Twenty-eighth. However, it is from hence the *Vulgar Æra* of the *Olympiads* takes Date; and falls in with the second Year of *Æschylus* the twelfth perpetual Archon of *Athens*, four hundred

*The first O-  
lympiad.  
A. M.  
3228.*



hundred and eight Years after the Destruction of *Troy*, and in the 3228th Year of the World. This *Epocha* is plac'd by *Varro* as the Boundary between the *Fabulous* and *Historical* Times, and is so much celebrated for its Certainty that the Number of *Olympiads* has been reckon'd among the *Chronological Characters*. They were the Annals by which the *Grecians* computed not only their own, but also the Histories of other Nations. And it will now be proper to make the same use of them in the further prosecution of their Story. The *Grecians* themselves were not presently acquainted with this way of Computation; and as the use of the *Olympiads* in *Chronology* was only accidental, we must inquire into the more immediate Design of these Solemnities. As to the Original of these, and the other principal Games of *Greece*, they were instituted in Honour of the Gods and Heroes; they were therefore term'd *Sacred*, and are to be consider'd as a Part of Religion. But besides the Spirit of Religion, and the Curiosity for publick Shews, there were other politick Motives which engaged the Exercise of them. It was thought convenient to re-assemble from time to time, and by these common Solemnities to re-unite, if possible, so many different States, independent of each other, and less separated by the Distance of their Habitations than the Diversity of their Interests: So that one main end of these Meetings was to debate and

settle every thing relating to the publick Peace and Reputation. As to the Sports themselves, they were agreeable to the lively *Genius* of the People, who thought with good reason they could not in times of Peace addict themselves to Exercises more honourable or useful. For besides that by this means they made their Limbs strong, active and supple, they also accustom'd their Thoughts to the Desire of Conquest. It was a kind of *School*, or *Military Apprenticeship*, in which their Courage found a constant Employment: And the Reason why the Victory in these Games was attended with such extraordinary Applause, was, that their Minds might be quicken'd with great and noble Prospects, when, in this Image of War, they arriv'd to a Pitch of Glory approaching, in some Respects, to that of the most famous Conqueror. They thought this sort of Triumph one of the greatest Parts of Happiness of which human Nature was capable; Upon which Occasion, when *Diagoras* had seen his Sons crown'd in the *Olympick* Games, one of his Friends made him this Compliment, *Now, Diagoras, you may die satisfy'd; for you can't be a God.* Not to describe all the Exercises perform'd there, we may form a general Notion of them from the Remembrance of our own *Justs* and *Tournaments*, which held a middle Place between a Diversion and a Combat: But the *Olympick* Games were attended with a much greater Pomp and

and Variety; and not only all *Greece*, but other neighbouring Nations were in a manner drain'd to furnish out the Appearance. When they were thus thoroughly establish'd, they were continu'd without Intermission, so long as *Greece* enjoy'd any degree of Liberty; and even after that was lost, some bring them down to the three Hundred and twelfth Year of *Christ*, under the Reign of *Constantine the Great*; and *Cedrenus* carries them about eighty Years lower, making the 293d the last *Olympiad*.

But to return to *Athens*, upon *Alcmaeon's* A. M. Death the People took another Occasion to <sup>3252.</sup> change the Government. They had already <sup>Olym. 7. 1.</sup> made such considerable Abatements both in Title and Power, that they were a sufficient Awe upon their Prince's Conduct: But the Name of *Perpetual* now began to sound harsh; and therefore they confin'd their *Archons* to the Space of ten Years. The first of this *De-* <sup>The De-</sup> *cennial* Creation, was *Charops*, Brother of *Alc-* <sup>cennial</sup> *maeon*, and Son of *Æschylus*. The next were <sup>Archons.</sup> *Æsimedes*, *Clidicus*, *Hippomenes*, *Leocrates*, *Ap-* <sup>Charops</sup> *sander* and *Eryxias*; of whom there is nothing particular, but that *Hippomenes* was depos'd for his Cruelty to his Daughter, who being deslour'd, he shut her up with an Horse, that for want of Meat devour'd her alive. *Eryxias*, who was the last of the Race of *Codrus*, either dying, or depos'd before his time was expir'd, some have substituted *Tlesias* to compleat his Term of.

ten Years. But this not being generally agreed on, and it seeming not improbable that this *Tleſſas* has been mistaken for *Lyſias*, mention'd as the third *Annual Archon*, we may conclude this sort of Government with *Eryxias*, after it continu'd about sixty-five Years.

A. M. Thus way was made for that more thorough  
 3317. Change, whereby the Power. and Succeſſion was  
 Ol. 23. 2. given up to the People; who agreed, instead of  
*The Government*  
*being chang'd into a Democracy.*  
 one ſingle Man, to chooſe Nine; their Authority was to laſt but one Year; and if, at the end of it, they gave a good Account of their Adminiſtration, they paſſ'd into the Senate of *Areopagus* for the reſt of their Life. The firſt of the  
*The Office of the Nine Archons.*  
 Nine was *Archon* properly ſo call'd, with an additional Title of *Eponymus*, as giving Denomination to his Year, wherein all Affairs of Moment were tranſacted in his Name. He had the Care of a great Part of their Superſtition, and kept a ſort of *Eccleſiaſtical Court*, wherein all Cauſes were determin'd betwixt Men and their Wives, Parents and Children, Kindred and Neighbours; as alſo concerning Wills, Legacies, Dowries and Inheritances. He had particularly the Care of Orphans, to manage their Eſtates and aſſign them Guardians; and took the firſt Cognizance of ſeveral publick Actions. The ſecond *Archon* had the Name of *King*: He manag'd another Part of their Superſtition; his Office being to aſſiſt in the Celebration of ſeveral Feſtivals, to decide all Diſputes be-  
 tween

tween the *Priests* and *Sacred Families*, and punish all Impiety and Prophanation of the Holy Mysteries in general. Besides which he determin'd several Causes both Civil and Criminal, or sometimes referr'd them to other Courts. The third was call'd *Polemarchus*; who, besides the Charge of some religious Customs, had that of War committed to him, from whence he had his Name. He had a great Command in the Armies abroad, and at home exercis'd the same Jurisdiction over Strangers that the *Archon* did over the Citizens. The other Six had the common Name of *Thesmothetæ*. They were in the Nature of a *Court of Appeal*, upon Complaints of false Accusation, Calumniating, or Bribery: And before them were brought all Causes between the Citizens and Strangers, and Controversies about Trade and Merchandise. They had properly the Custody of the Laws, and were plac'd as a *Barrier* between the other Magistrates and the People; having Power to oppose the enacting of any Laws which were apparently against the Interest of the Commonwealth. These were their distinct Offices; and as to what equally concern'd them in general, they had all the Power of punishing Malefactors with Death: They had a joint Commission for constituting some sort of Magistrates, and deposing others, when, upon an Enquiry into their Behaviour, and by the Suffrages of the People, they were declar'd unworthy of their

Office. All together they had Authority to assemble the People, as the Kings and other *Archons* had done upon any emergent Occasion. And as a Recompence for their Services, they were free from all Taxes exacted of other Citizens for the building of *Men of War*; which was an Immunity never granted to any besides themselves. The first of these *Annual Archons* *Creon* the first *Annual Archon*, was *Creon*, who enter'd upon his charge in the second Year of the twenty-third *Olympiad*. From him they were continu'd regularly: So that whatever Interruptions the State suffer'd through Faction and Usurpation; yet was this the constant settled Form of Government, so long as *Athens* had the least Remains of Life and Liberty.

But this Liberty, of which *Theseus* laid the Foundation, wanted several Improvements before it could receive its finishing Stroke. The People had gain'd something by every Alteration: And the Power of the Magistrates thus limited, was too weak to bridle such captious unsettled Tempers, especially without the help of Laws, both to guide and protect them in the Execution of their Offices. For it does not appear that *Greece* had yet any written Laws, but was govern'd altogether by the Sentence of the Magistrate. This occasion'd daily Disputes and Quarrels; so that they could come to no Agreement either as to the Religious or Civil Administration, every Trifle af-

fording

fording Matter to alarm the Ignorant, and incense the Faction. Of which we have an Instance in the Attempt of *Cylon*, who had won <sup>*The Attempt of*</sup> Cylon. the Prize in the *Course* at the Celebration of the thirty-fifth *Olympiad*, and bore a considerable Sway in the City. He took Advantage from these Disturbances to affect the Sovereignty, and, in order to it, had seiz'd the Castle, where he stood a Siege till he was almost starv'd, and then with his Brother made his Escape. His Companions in the mean while fled for Refuge to the Image of *Minerva*; but the Magistrates having entic'd them with hopes of Pardon to quit their Sanctuary, put most of them to Death. This was afterwards reckoned so heinous an Affront to Religion, that the City was look'd upon as polluted, and obnoxious to the Wrath of the *Goddeſſes*, till the Authors were banish'd: And even after that, the Memory of this Murder was several times reviv'd, and made use of to keep up a Faction in the City. This Story is generally plac'd about the forty-fifth *Olympiad*: But that time may relate more properly to the Expiation of the Murder, than to the Attempt of *Cylon*, which seems to have happen'd a considerable while sooner.

Thus *Athens* continu'd several Years at a Stand, till at last her Calamities made her wise. She found by Degrees that true Liberty consists in the due Exercise of Justice and Reason,

and that an intire Subjection to them was not to be establish'd, but by the Authority of a Legislator. To this purpose she pitch'd upon

*Draco pre-scribes Laws.* *Draco*, who was *Archon* in the thirty-ninth *Olympiad*; a Man of Wisdom and Virtue, but rigid

A. M. 3380. Olymp. 39. 1. even beyond a Sense of Humanity. Of this severe Stamp were his Laws, of which he publish'd many; leaving the Execution of them chiefly to the *Court* of the *Ephete*, which he new-modell'd for that Purpose. He punish'd almost every trivial Offence with Death, making no Distinction between the stealing of a Cabbage or an Apple, and Sacrilege, or Murder: Wherefore it was said of his Laws, *That they were writ not with Ink, but with Blood*:

And he himself being ask'd, *Why he made Death the Punishment of most Offences?* reply'd, *Small Crimes deserve that, and I have no bigger for the greatest.* This rigid Notion of his seems to have been the Original of the Doctrine of the *Stoicks*, which prevail'd so much in after Ages. But these Laws met with the Fate of all violent things; for their Severity soon brought them into Disuse. Yet still this gave the Poor no Relief against the Oppression and Usury of the Rich, with which they were almost exhausted. So that the Commons hated the Nobility, the Nobility fear'd the Commons; and Nothing but Desolation seem'd to attend the State.

At



At this time happen'd some Commotions <sup>*The Affairs of Lesbos.*</sup> between *Athens* and *Mitylene* of *Lesbos*, about *Sigéum* a Town of *Troas*, to which both Sides laid equal Claim. The *Athenians* under the Conduct of *Phrynon*, and the *Lesbians* under *Pittacus* maintain'd the Contest for some time with various Success; till the two Generals having agreed to decide it in their own Persons, *Pittacus* entangled his Adversary in a Net, which he had hid under his Shield, and kill'd <sup>*Phrynon kill'd.*</sup> him: Which Stratagem seems to have been the <sup>*Olym. 43.*</sup> Foundation of the *Retiarii* among the *Romans*.<sup>3.</sup> The *Athenians* afterwards renew'd their Pretensions under the Conduct of *Pisistratus*, who took *Sigéum*, and plac'd his natural Son *Hegestratus* over it. But he being molested in his Government, the Business was referr'd to *Periander* of *Corinth*; and adjust'd by his Determination, that both Sides should keep what they were then actually possess'd of. This latter War seems to have been confounded with the former, because *Herodotus* speaks of the War in general, as of one single Action under the Conduct of *Alcæus* the *Lyrick* Poet, without mention either of *Phrynon* or *Pittacus*. As <sup>*Pittacus.*</sup> for *Pittacus*, he generally passes for a Tyrant of *Mitylene*; but his Conduct has sufficiently vindicated that Part of his Character. For he took the Government rather in opposition to others than out of any private Ambition; and held it no longer than the Necessities  
of

Alcæus.

of the State requir'd. He made several good Laws; and gave so many other Proofs of his Moderation and Prudence, that he is rank'd among the *Seven Wise Men*. His chief Adversary was *Alcæus*, who bore a great Sway in the Affairs of *Mitylene*, and valu'd himself more upon the Character of a Soldier and Patriot, than that of a Poet; tho' his Pretensions to either are not so well grounded. For in the Action between the *Asbenians* and *Mitylenians* he ran away, and left his Shield to the Enemy: And *Strabo* assures us, that notwithstanding his Cry against Tyranny, he lay himself under a Suspicion of the same Designs which he oppos'd in others. His Writings were all in the *Lyrick* Strain; his Style close and correct, and withal pompous; and tho' he sometimes descends to Sports and Love, yet he always shews himself capable of greater Subjects. *Horace*, with whom he is usually compar'd, ascribes to him the Invention of the *Barbiton*; tho' some attribute the same Honour to *Terpander*, and others to *Anacreon*. He has also been complimented with the *Golden Lyre*, in relation to those Pieces which he writ against Tyranny. Since we have mention'd him, we must not omit his great Contemporary *Sappho*, who was also a Native of *Mitylene*, and flourish'd about the forty-fourth *Olympiad*. Tho' she was by no means a Beauty, yet *Alcæus* was a great Admirer of her: But she was so far from receiving his Addresses, that

Sappho.

that one Day when he told her, *He had something to say to her, but that he was asham'd to bring it out*, she gave him an handsom Repulse, telling him, *That if it were fit for her to bear, he would not have kept it in so long*. Her Cruelty to him is the more remarkable, because she was so excessively amorous, that her Character suffers very much from the Charge of her unnatural Intrigues with some of her own Sex. Her famous Gallant was *Phaon*; whose Unkindness in abandoning her, as it gave occasion to some of her finest Pieces, so it afterwards was the Cause of her Death. She had Wit enough to supply a great many other Defects: And 'tis easy to judge, from the few Remains we have of her, with what unaffected Force and Sweetness she touch'd the Passions, and how deservedly she has gain'd the Title of the *Tenth Muse*. Near this time flourish'd *Archilochus*, Archilochus. born in the Island *Paros* about the twenty ninth *Olympiad*. He generally passes for the Author of the *Iambick Verse*: But this kind of Poetry was of a more ancient Date; and *Homer* himself is mention'd as Author of a Piece in that Strain, call'd *Margites*. So that *Archilochus's* Title to this Invention seems to be grounded chiefly upon the remarkable Virulency and Success of his Invectives against *Lycambes*; who having promis'd him his Daughter, and, after the Match was agreed on, refus'd to give her, the Poet handled him so severely, that he and his

Stefichorus.

his Daughter both hang'd themselves. His way of Writing was strong, and nervous, yet short, and glittering, and enliven'd with abundance of Wit, but it had such a Tincture of Gall and Malice, that he professes, *He could spare neither Friend nor Foe.* But of those who conspir'd at this time to advance the *Lyrick Muse*, none have been mention'd with more Honour than *Stefichorus*. He was born in the thirty seventh *Olympiad*, at *Himera* a City of *Sicily*; and receiv'd his Name from the Memory of his being the first, who taught the *Chorus* to dance to the *Lyre*. We have no particular Catalogue of his Writings: But the distinguishing Character of them is a majestick Gravity, by which he sustain'd with his *Lyre* all the Weight and Grandeur of an *Epick Poem*; insomuch that some have put him in competition with *Homer*. But withal it is own'd he was not so great a Master of his *Genius* as he; and it was chiefly upon account of the Looseness and Luxuriancy of his Stile, that he would not bear the Comparison. He was also a Man of the first Rank for Wisdom and Authority among his Fellow-Citizens, and seems to have had a great hand in the Transactions between that State and the Tyrant *Phalaris*. As he had all along vigorously oppos'd him, so when he had carry'd his Design, *Stefichorus* was the principal Man in encouraging a Revolt. Soon after which the Tyrant seiz'd him, and kept him, 'till he could invent a

Death

Death answerable to his Crime. This gave him an Opportunity of acquainting himself with his Person and Excellencies, which turn'd his Fury into the greatest Love and Esteem: And he was ever after so far from entertaining any Suspicion of him himself, that he was remarkably zealous in vindicating him to others. He dy'd about the eightieth Year of his Age, at *Catana*; whose Inhabitants were so sensible of the Honour his Relicks did their City, that they resolv'd to keep them in defiance of the *Himerians*, who were no less obstinately bent upon the Recovery of them, tho' at the Expence of a War. The Contest seems to have been adjust'd by *Pbalaris*, who told his Subjects, that wherever the Poet was bury'd, yet upon account of his Birth, and Life, he would still be reckon'd an *Himerian*. 'Tis true this Account of him depends upon the single Authority of *Pbalaris* himself; and tho' the *Epistles*, which pass under his Name, should not be genuine, they serve however to confirm the Esteem and Character this Poet bore with Antiquity.

We left the *Athenians* under a dismal Prospect of relapsing into their first Disorders; which made them have recourse to fresh Precautions. For the Remedy prescrib'd by *Draco*, was itself in the nature of a Disease: Insomuch that they, who had the Execution of his Laws, found it necessary to slacken the Reins, tho' it was not safe to

Solon.

Recovers  
Salamis.Reforms  
the State.  
A. M.  
3410.  
Olymp.  
46. 3.

to quit them. In order therefore to find out such *Mediums*, as were able to recompence the Law for whatever they took from it, they cast their Eyes on *Solon*, a Man not bias'd by any Party, and whose great Wisdom and Integrity, together with his extraordinary Meekness, had gain'd him an universal Love and Esteem. But that which first brought him into Repute, was the Recovery of the Island *Salamis* his native Country, lately revolted from the *Athenians* to the *Megareans*; which had several times been attempted, but with such ill Success, that it was made Death to stir any more in it. *Solon*, under a pretence of Madness, took the liberty of making another Motion; and acted his Part so well, that by the Oddness of his Gesture, as well as the Warmth and Strength of his Reasoning, he brought the People to consent to another Expedition: And under his Conduct they surpris'd the Island, by a Stratagem of dressing their young Men in Womens Clothes. *Solon*, upon the Success of this and other Enterprises, was chosen *Archon* in the third Year of the forty-sixth *Olympiad*; and, besides the Power of his Office, was authoris'd by a general Voice to regulate their Magistrates, Assemblies, Courts and Senates; to appoint their Number, Times of Meeting, and what Estates should capacitate them for such and such Offices; in short, to dissolve or continue any of the present Constitutions, and give them such a new Set of Laws as should appear to him most

most proper for the better modelling of the State.

There was so much Pride, Avarice, and Faction at this time in the City, that *Solon* seem'd unwilling to undertake so difficult a Task. They were chiefly divided into three Parties; one of which inclin'd to an *Oligarchy*, another to a *Democracy*, and a third, to balance the other two, was for a *mixt Government* between both. But the common People now ripe for Sedition, claim'd an equal Division of the publick Lands in the Hands of the Rich; and were making themselves a Head to do it by Force, when *Solon* appear'd with full Power to redress their Grievances, and quell these Commotions. To strengthen his Authority, the chief Men offer'd him the *Tyranny*; and his Friends told him, *He might easily, by his Conduct and Moderation, change so odious a Name into that of a Kingdom.* In answer to them, *A Tyranny*, says he, *is a very fair Spot, but it has no Way to go out at:* And therefore he absolutely refus'd it, as not so consistent with his Scheme of Reformation.

The first Step he made, was in favour of the *Commons*, to release all Debtors by an express *Release Debtors* Law, call'd *Seisachthia*, or the taking off a Burden: And to do it with the least Injury he could to their rich Creditors, he rais'd the Value of Money in some moderate proportion. But his Management in this Affair had like to have prov'd

prov'd of very ill consequence: For having communicated his Design to some of his Friends, they made their Advantage of it, by taking up vast Sums of Mony, and purchasing Land with it; and when the Act was publish'd, they refus'd Payment of the Mony, and yet kept their Estates. The People could not but fancy *Solon* at the bottom of this Contrivance, 'till he clear'd himself by remitting his Debtors five, or as others say, fifteen Talents. To make the Rich some further Amends, he assign'd to them, exclusive of the People, all Honours, Offices and Employments; tho' at the same time he took care to allay their Power, by giving every private Citizen a Privilege of voting in the *Great Assembly* of the whole Body of the State. Which however inconsiderable it might appear, was soon found to be of vast Consequence. For it being permitted any Man, after the Determination of the Magistrates, to appeal to the People, hence it came to pass, that Causes of the greatest weight and moment were brought before them. And as they were not always on the right Side, for this Reason, *Anacharsis*, whom the Fame of the *Grecian Sages* had drawn from the extreme Parts of *Scythia*, told *Solon*, *He wonder'd to see Wise Men propose Causes, and Fools determine them.* This Philosopher at another time was saying to him, *That written Laws were like Cobwebs; they held fast the Poor and Weak, but the Rich and Powerful easily broke through*



*through them.* To which *Solon* reply'd, *Both Parties will obey the Laws so long as it is the Interest of neither to break them.* To say the Truth, his chief Care was of the *Commons*: But yet knowing the danger of committing things of the highest Importance to the giddy unthinking Multitude, he instituted the *Great Council of Four Hundred*, an hundred out of each Tribe; whose <sup>*Regulates the Courts of Justice.*</sup> Business it was, carefully to inspect all Matters before they were brought into the *General Assembly* of the People. And as for the *Court of Areopagus*, he was so far from suppressing it, that he gave the Members a more extensive Jurisdiction; making these two *Councils* the *Anchors* of the Commonwealth, whereby it would be less liable to be toss'd by Tumults, and become a Prey to such as had Knavery enough to design, and Cunning and Eloquence to entice the People to their own Destruction. We must not omit another famous Court call'd the *Heliastick Council*, from their sitting open and expos'd to the *Sun*. It consisted of Judges chosen out of the Body of the People, from fifty to two thousand, according as the Exigency of the Causes requir'd, of which they determin'd many, and those generally of the highest Consequence.

This was his Regulation of the principal Courts of Justice, with his Provisions in general for the State. And as for particular Institutions, he first repeal'd all *Draco's Laws*, <sup>*His other Miscellaneous Laws.*</sup>

except those concerning Murder, and prescrib'd others better suited to the Nature of Offences. He provided particularly against Idleness; in-  
somuch that a Son was not oblig'd to maintain his Father, if he had not brought him up to some Trade. He first gave leave to make Wills, whereas before the nearest of Kin inherited of course: But by this he insinuated, that Friendship and Affection were stronger Ties than Blood. He ordain'd, that Women should have no Portions, which he thought serv'd only to make them a Prey, and destroy'd the Ends of Marriage. In the case of an Heiress, he oblig'd him who had marry'd her, to use her as his Wife, at least three times a Month; and if he prov'd insufficient, she might lie with his nearest Kinsman: In other cases, any one might kill an Adulterer, if he was taken in the Act. Common mercenary Prostitutes were in a great measure allow'd of, for the satisfying of Lust; but they were not to keep company with modest Women, and, as a Badge of Distinction, wore flower'd Garments; neither were the Men, who were notorious for frequenting their Company, allow'd to speak in publick. He who forc'd a Free-Woman, was fin'd a hundred Drachms: But this Lawgiver was so indulgent in the Use of Boys, that he debarr'd only the Slaves from it, as too great a Privilege. He admitted none into any part of the Magistracy under thirty Years of Age; and when they were

were enter'd, was more particularly severe in punishing their Failings; insomuch that it was Death to an *Archon* to be taken drunk. 'Tis observable he made no Law against Parricide, as not imagining any would be guilty of it. These were the chief of his Ordinances, and many more might be mention'd; of which one is very remarkable, that he branded those with Infamy, who stood neuter in a Sedition; as not thinking they could ever make good Citizens, who express'd no Fellow-feeling for their Country. He also reform'd the *Calendar*, reducing the Year into such a Form, as was most agreeable to the Motion of the Sun. Having compleated the Body of the Laws themselves, he took due care for the Execution of them, that the Citizens might not pretend Ignorance in what they were to do, or to avoid. To this end, Transcripts of them were publickly expos'd in the City for every one to peruse; at least so that any one might have recourse to them upon occasion: And it was the Business of the *Thesmothetes* to revise them carefully, and repeat them distinctly once a Year. For the further Information of the People, when they were summon'd to the *General Assembly*, they had notice given 'em of the subject Matter of the Debate, and time to prepare themselves accordingly. *Solon's* last Care was to perpetuate his Laws: And lest, through the Connivance of the Magistrates, they should in time be neglected,

like those of his Predecessor, he caus'd the Senate to take a solemn Oath to observe them ; and every one of the *Theſmothetæ* vow'd, that if he violated any of them, he would dedicate a golden Statue of equal weight with himself to the *Delphian Apollo* : The People he also oblig'd to observe 'em a hundred Years.

Thus he finish'd his new Settlement ; wherein his chief Aim was to poise one part of the State with the other : So that what the Commons wanted in Wealth and Honour, was sufficiently made up to them in their Share of the Government. This was reducing things, as near as he could, to an exact Equality : And indeed it was no easy Task to find out a Cure for such a Complication of Distempers, where the Weakness of those he had to do with, would hardly permit him to make use of suitable Remedies. And therefore when one ask'd him, if he had prescrib'd good Laws to the *Athenians*, Yes, says he, *as good as they are capable of receiving*. Since therefore they would admit of no Government but a *Democracy*, he form'd his Laws according to that Model. It did not indeed come up to that of *Sparta* laid down by *Lycurgus* ; and the Difference is easily accounted for, from the Temper of the *Athenians*, which was too delicate and capricious to be brought to those grave and regular Austerities ; and without considering the great Sway the People bore in the Execution of the Laws,

the

the Laws themselves were more numerous and confus'd, and could not therefore be so religiously observ'd, as they were at *Sparta*. Yet such this Establishment was, as restor'd the Love of Labour and Husbandry, made way for Commerce, put the *Athenians* into a condition of being rich at home, and powerful abroad, and with the Rules of Justice, Order, and Discipline, serv'd to tame and polish a People bred up in Liberty, and persuaded that Force and Violence were the only Preservatives against Oppression.

This new Constitution, tho' generally well receiv'd, yet was not free from Censure: And therefore *Solon*, to prevent all cavilling and tampering with him about his Laws, got leave to travel for ten Years, in hopes they would in that time be establish'd by Custom. But whilst he was abroad taking a Survey of *Ægypt*, *Cyprus*, and *Lydia*, *Athens* was again embroil'd by the old Faction of the three contending Parties about the Form of the Commonwealth. The poorer Sort inclining most to a *Democracy*, were headed by *Pisistratus*, descended from King *Pisistratus*. *Codrus*, and by the Mother's Side related to *Solon*; a Man made up of Design and Artifice, yet seemingly open, tractable, and without Passion. He profess'd nothing so much as a Desire of Equality, and Aversion to Change; and manag'd the Disguise with something so modest and affable in his Behaviour, and such a

soft and voluble Tongue, that it was not easy to resist the Appearance of so much Merit. Nor indeed did any body suspect him but *Solon*, who being return'd, soon perceiv'd he was setting up for himself, and endeavour'd to take him off first by fair means, often declaring both to himself and others, *That if it were not for his Desire of Rule, he knew no body better form'd for a good Man and a good Citizen.* But *Pisistratus* resolv'd to make use of the good Opinion of those who had thrown themselves upon his Protection; and having wounded himself, went in his Chariot into the Market-place, where he complain'd of having been barbarously assaulted for his good Intentions to the Publick, and demanded a Guard might be assign'd him for the Defence of his Person. *Solon*, upon this Exploit, compar'd him to *Ulysses* in *Homer*, but told him, *He did not act the Part right, for his Design, says he, in cutting himself, was to deceive his Enemies, but Yours is against your Fellow-Citizens.* He also upbraided the People with their Stupidity, telling them, *That for his own part, he had Wit enough to see through this Design, and Courage enough to oppose it.* But *Pisistratus* his Party prevail'd; and having obtain'd a Guard of fifty Men, he insensibly increas'd the Number, 'till, by their Assistance, he possess'd himself of the Castle, and, with that, of the Sovereignty.

This

This gave a general Alarm, and *Solon* was not wanting in his repeated Efforts to the People, telling 'em, *They might with more Ease indeed have crush'd the Tyranny in the Bud; but that it would be more glorious now to pluck it up by the Roots.* But the Surprise struck such a Damp into their Spirits, that no body offer'd to back his Remonstrances. On the contrary, they ask'd him, *To what he himself trusted, that he ventur'd so speak so boldly?* To whom he reply'd, *My Age.* Finding all ways ineffectual to move them, he retir'd, saying, *He had at least the Satisfaction of having discharged his Duty to his Country, and the Laws.* Soon after, that he might not seem to countenance this Change, he quitted *Athens*; and tho' *Pisistratus* importun'd him to return, he chose rather to spend the Remainder of his Life in *Lydia*, *Cilicia* and *Cyprus*. In the former of these Places he had the famous Conference with *Craesus* about Happiness; the Result of which was, *That no Man could be accounted happy before he dy'd.* *Craesus*, who had invited him to admire the Pomp and Grandeur of his Court, dismiss'd him with a Contempt of his Ignorance, or ill Manners; But being afterwards taken Prisoner by *Cyrus*, and order'd to be burnt alive, he cry'd out thrice upon *Solon*; of which *Cyrus* demanding the Reason, *Craesus* told him all that had formerly pass'd between 'em, and that now he found his Words verify'd. *Cyrus* was so affected with the Relation, that he not

*Usurps the Govern-ment.*

A. M.

3443.  
Olymp.

54. 4.

Solon's  
Death.

And Cha-  
racter.

only set him at Liberty, but contracted a Friendship with him much to the Honour of *Solon*, who by this means had preserv'd one King, and at the same time reform'd another. In *Cilisia* he founded a City call'd from himself *Soleis*, and planted in it some *Athenians*, whose Language being corrupted by that of the Country, they were said to *Solæcise*. Soon after he dy'd in *Cyprus* about the fifty fifth *Olympiad*, the eightieth Year of his Age, and the second of *Pisistratus*'s Government. Besides the Wisdom and Integrity of this great Man, which have appear'd through the whole course of his Laws and Administration, he was master of many other distinguishing Qualities. He had so good a *Genius* for Rhetorick, that from him *Cicero* dates the Rise of Eloquence in *Athens*. He also made several successful Attempts in Poetry; and *Plato* says, it was only for want of due Application, that he did not come to dispute the Prize with *Homer* himself. But his most shining Talent was the Study of Politicks, and Morality; wherein he succeeded so well, as to obtain one of the first Places among the *Sages* of Antiquity.

We must not dismiss his Character, without mentioning several of his Contemporaries, who by displaying a Fund of Reason, and good Sense, laid the Foundation of those Improvements, which afterwards made *Greece* the *Metropolis* of Science and Philosophy. These were  
the



the *Seven Wise Men* properly so call'd; which <sup>*The Seven Wise Men.*</sup> Attribute was given to them in the third Year of the forty ninth *Olympiad*. Their Names were *Tbales*, *Pittacus*, *Bias*, *Solon*, *Cleobulus*, *Myson*, and *Cbilon*. As most of them had a Share in the Government of Cities and Commonwealths, they directed the Tenour of their Precepts to the good Establishment of the several Societies they liv'd in. These they endeavour'd to inculcate by short and comprehensive Sentences, which were only general Maxims of Civil Prudence, and Morality, without Order or Connexion, concerning natural Justice and Honesty, Piety to Friends and Relations, Zeal for the Publick, and other common Offices of Life. Out of this loose Collection, each of them assum'd to himself some one Sentence more remarkably expressive, in the nature of a *Motto*. But the first of the Seven had more refin'd Notions than the rest, carrying his Thoughts from matters of immediate Use and Practice, to Speculation.

And here it may be requisite to make a more <sup>*The Birth of Philosophy.*</sup> strict Inquiry into the Birth of *Philosophy*, which is certainly to be dated from this Period of Time, and is almost universally assign'd to *Greece*. Not but that some Parts of it were of a more early and foreign Extraction, being chiefly such as ow'd their Original to Chance, or Necessity. Thus the *Aegyptians* form'd the Principles of *Geometry* from the Division of their Harvests,

Harvests, when their Land-marks had been swept away by the Inundation of the *Nile*. The *Assyrians*, from the advantage of an open Campaign Country, a clear Sky, and abundance of Leisure, naturally betook themselves to the Contemplation of the Stars, and from thence laid the Foundation of *Astronomy*: Among them, the *Chaldeans* refin'd upon these Speculations, and improv'd them into Notions of *Astrology*. And the *Phœnicians* drew a further more certain and beneficial Use from them in respect of their Navigation; wherein they succeeded so well, that they were the first who found out, that there was a fixt Point towards the Pole, by which Pilots might steer with Safety. The most general and extensive Parts of Learning the *Ægyptians* laid claim to: Tho' we have nothing certain of the first Planters of Civility among them, especially before their famous *Hermes Trismegistus*; and even of him, those Remains which are still extant, are look'd upon as a supposititious Mixture of *Ægyptian*, *Platonick*, and *Christian* Doctrine. It seems probable, that they deriv'd a considerable Share of their Knowledge from their long and free Intercourse with the first People, the *Jews*. For besides the time of their Captivity among them, *Ægypt* was excepted from that general Abhorrence which they were commanded to express for most of the other *Gentiles*. But whatever Foundation they had laid of the Arts and Sciences,

Sciences, it is certain they did not make a suitable Progress in them. For as they were a People grossly superstitious, the Priests taking advantage of their Weakness, work'd up their Observations on Nature into a sort of *Theology*; and by veiling them under *Symbols* and *Hieroglyphicks*, from the Apprehensions of the Vulgar, turn'd every thing into Mystery and Religion. They had their Design, which was to beget a Reverence in the People's Hearts towards themselves: But this secret Management was far from making any real Advancement in Philosophy. It serv'd however to give them a mighty Reputation in the World; which put the *Grecians*, who were of a very active and inquisitive Temper, upon diving into their Mysteries. With this Design they made several Voyages to them; and notwithstanding this *Aegyptian Darkness*, made some Discoveries which they carry'd home with them, and which serv'd as the Groundwork for an ample Superstructure. Government being the principal care of all Nations, *Solon*, *Lycurgus*, and others, bent their Studies this way, and made no further use of their Travels, than to enrich their Schemes with Laws and State Policies. Others, who were less engag'd in State-Affairs, turn'd their Thoughts upon more subtle and refin'd Speculations concerning Nature, and the Works of Providence. The first who made any successful Attempts this way, at least the first we have any certain Ac-

**Thales.** Account of was *Thales*, who was born in the thirty fifth *Olympiad*, and was thought to be originally a *Phœnician*, but living at *Miletus* of *Ionia*, was call'd the *Miletian*. He introduc'd into *Greece* the Elements of *Geometry* and *Astronomy*; and form'd several plausible Notions of the Theory of the *Universe*, which he conceiv'd to be animated by a *Supreme Being*, as the *Soul* of it, and the Author of all natural Motion. He had also some faint Idea of the Immortality of the *Soul*. To him is ascrib'd the Invention of taking the Height of the *Pyramids* by their Shadows. He divided the Celestial Sphere into five Circles: He first observ'd the Solstices and *Æquinoxes*; and discover'd the Reason of Eclipses, which before were look'd upon as supernatural Presages of some publick Calamity; and the common People had, for several Ages after, the same superstitious Notions concerning them. His particular Tenet was, that Water is the first Principle of all natural Bodies. Having enrich'd his Country with Treasures of this kind, he pass'd for the *Original Founder of Philosophy*; and died about ninety Years old, as he was sitting a Spectator at the *Olympick Games*. His Doctrine was soon propagated by *Anaximander* and *Anaximenes*, both *Milesians*, and his Scholars; the former of which made such considerable Improvements, that he is reckon'd the more immediate *Founder of the Ionick Sect*. In opposition to his Master's

Opinion

**Anaximander.**

Opinion concerning Water, he made Infinity the *Universal Principle*. He distinguish'd the four Elements, discover'd the Obliquity of the *Zodiack*, and form'd the first Draught of a general System, by placing the Earth in the Centre of the *Universe*. These were the Steps these first Heroes made in Philosophy: And tho' they did not arrive to any certain Knowledge, so as to take off that Veil, which was drawn over most of the Works of Providence; yet it redounds very much to their Glory that they trac'd out the Way so far, as to make them the Subject of a more severe and accurate Inquiry.

But the *Ionick* Philosophy was soon eclips'd by another Sect of a much greater Extent and Duration, which was call'd the *Italick*, and establish'd in the Person of *Pythagoras*: Of *Pythagoras* whom we may give some general Account,<sup>ras.</sup> without entring upon the many Contradictions and Absurdities which have sully'd both the Life and Doctrine of this great Man. He was born at *Samos* towards the forty-seventh *Olympiad*. He study'd first under *Hermodamas* a Grammarian, and then improv'd himself under *Pberesydes* of *Syrus* one of the *Cyclades*, a Man of great Repute for his Wisdom, and the first, as *Cicero* says, who asserted the Immortality of the Soul. He travell'd young into *Aegypt*; where, being well recommended by *Polycrates*, he found an easy Access to the Priests: Tho',

as they were naturally Jealous, and Uncommunicative, they enjoyn'd him all the Austerities of their Order, in hopes to deter him from penetrating too far into their Mysteries. But his Curiosity carry'd him through the strictest Course of Probation; and having in five and twenty Years enrich'd himself with great Variety of Learning, he return'd home. Where being under some Apprehensions from the Tyranny establish'd at *Samos*, he remov'd first to *Peloponnesus*, and from thence to *Crotone* in *Italy*, where he spent the Residue of his Life; and was at last either kill'd, or starv'd to Death by means of a Tumult rais'd by one *Cylon*, because *Pythagoras* finding him to be a profligate young Man, would not admit him into his School. The Inhabitants of *Crotone* had formerly by their Industry and Courage gain'd such a Reputation, that it was said proverbially of them, *The last of the Crotoniates is the first of the Grecians*. But having suffer'd a great Loss in a Battle with the *Locrians*, they were sunk into a State of Sloth and Effeminacy at the time when *Pythagoras* settled among them. Who thinking it a Task worthy his Care, to restore them to a Sense of their former Merit, exerted himself in the Nature of a Lawgiver, and prescrib'd to them such convincing Rules of Religion, Justice, Temperance, and other Virtues, that they easily assented to every thing he said, and the Magistrates themselves courted him to accept

accept a Share in the Administration. After this Reformation of their Manners, he began to make open Profession of his Wisdom, in order to establish his Sect. But thinking the Title of *Wise*, which his Predecessors had assum'd to themselves, too arrogant, he modestly declin'd it, and was the first that call'd himself a *Philosopher*, or *Lover of Wisdom*. He enjoin'd his Scholars Silence for five Years, to make himself heard with more Attention and Respect. He had learn'd in *Agypt* to give to all his Instructions an Air of Gravity and Mystery: Yet to avoid being too Enigmatical, he chose to deliver most of them in *Symbols*; which under a Sense that was plain and simple, including another that was wholly figurative, he endeavour'd by them, neither to *divulge* his Doctrine, nor to conceal it; for these short Expressions held a middle Place between the *Hieroglyphick*, and the common way of Discourse, and were therefore thought most proper for his Design, which was to *disclose* the Truth without *propbating* it. His common Method of teaching, was by *Geometry*, *Numbers*, and *Musick*; by the first of which he explain'd material and sensible things, and by the two latter, intellectual. Not that he fancy'd there was any intrinsic Virtue in Numbers, but that these just Proportions, as they serv'd to divide and explain things, so they made his Doctrine appear more profound than really it was. As to  
his

his *Theology*, he was the first who brought into Greece the true Name of God, which he communicated to his Disciples under the Name of *Quaternion*, or *Number of Four* : For the *Quaternion* of *Pythagoras* is allow'd to be the in-utterable Name, or the *Jehovah* of the *Hebrews*. He had also been brought up in a Belief of the Soul's Immortality : But because he could not conceive how it should exist after its Separation from the Body, this put him upon establishing his Opinion of the *Metempsychosis*, or Transmigration of Souls ; and for this reason he forbade the eating of Flesh, or using it in Sacrifices. He was the first who taught the Principles of *Physicks* : And tho' we cannot expect from him any complete System, yet there was in the whole Course of his Inquiries something more solid and regular than what had hitherto been deliver'd. From hence it was, that his Sect soon arriv'd to be the only one of a fix'd Reputation ; and out of it came all the Philosophers, who flourish'd for the Space of near four hundred Years, and who were divided into so many different Sects.

But to return to *Athens*, *Pisistratus* did not enjoy his Usurpation much above three Years, before he was displac'd by *Megacles*, and *Lycurgus*, the Heads of the two other Factions ; who also in five Years more were a Means of his Restitution. For not agreeing among themselves, *Megacles* promis'd to restore him upon  
con-



condition he would marry his Daughter. With this Design, they dress'd up *Phya*, a tall Woman, in Armour, to counterfeit *Minerva*, and putting her in a Chariot, sent to prepare the Citizens for her Reception, telling them, the *Goddeſs* was come in Perſon in behalf of *Piſiſtratus*: Which being acted with wonderful Aſſurance, ſucceeded ſo well, that they immediately ador'd the Deity, and reſtated her *Favourite*. In about ten Years *Megacles* reviv'd the Quarrel, upon a Pretence that *Piſiſtratus* ſlighted his Daughter, and having marry'd her only to regain the Sovereignty, did not uſe her as his Wife. He being inform'd of the Deſigns againſt him, retir'd voluntarily into *Eretria*, a City of *Eubæa*: And after ten Years more having form'd an Alliance with the *Argives* and *Thebans*, got *Marathon* a Town of *Attica* into his Hands. From thence he march'd againſt *Athens*, routed thoſe who came out againſt him, and, that they ſhould not rally, ſent 'em word, *They had nothing to fear from him, if they would go home, and be quiet*. By this means he got poſſeſſion the third time, and eſtabliſh'd himſelf by his Mony and Allies, and by keeping his Enemies Sons as Hoſtages 'till his Death, which happen'd not long after. During the whole courſe of his Reign, which was thirty three Years, including the ſixteen of his Exile, he demean'd himſelf with ſuch Moderation and Juſtice, as might have put lawful Sovereigns to the bluſh.

*Piſiſtratus*  
*his Dra'h.*  
A. M.  
3476.  
Olymp.  
63. 1.

*And Character.*

Of which we have an Instance in *Plutarch*, that being accus'd of a Murder, tho' it was in the time of his Tyranny, he went to plead his Cause before the *Areopagites*; but his Accuser did not appear,. He not only carry'd it fair with *Solon*, but paid a sort of Reverence to his Person, and his Laws; to which he made some few Additions, by providing for the Maintenance of maim'd Soldiers, to oblige the Army, and ordering the Country to be kept in good Tillage. The Pretence of this last, was to prevent Idleness, and promote Husbandry; but the real Design was to disperse the People, as the surest Method to take away all occasion of plotting and caballing, and to support a precarious Government. Besides his natural Talent for Oratory, he had more acquir'd Learning, than was generally to be met with in those Times; and express'd a particular Esteem of it, by erecting the first publick Library. He was certainly Master of many excellent Qualities; and perverted them no further, than as they stood in competition with Empire. So that the People had nothing to object against him, but his having a Power greater than the Laws; and by his not exerting that Power, when it was in his Hands, he almost conquer'd the Aver-sion the *Athenians* had conceiv'd for the *Royalty*. Upon these Accounts he was deservedly oppos'd to other Tyrants and Usurpers: And *Cicero* thought it no Reflexion upon *Julius Cæsar*, to call

call him *The Pisistratus of Rome*. In another Place, doubting with himself how that Emperor would use his good Fortune after the Battle of *Pharsalia*, *We are uncertain yet*, says he to his Friend Atticus, *whether the Fate of Rome will have it, that we grove under a Phalaris, or enjoy ourselves under a Pisistratus*.

He left his three Sons, *Hippias, Hipparchus*, and *Thessalus*, in joint Possession of the Government, the supreme Authority being lodg'd in *Hippias* as the eldest. *Thessalus* is represented as bold and headstrong: Tho' *Diodorus* makes him the most deserving of the three; and says, he ingratiated himself with the People, by quitting his Share in the Tyranny. But the Accounts of the two former being more clear, and full, we must confine ourselves to their Story. They continu'd the Laws and Magistrates as they found them; adorn'd the City; and exacted only the twentieth part of the publick Revenue: They agreed so well among themselves, and pursu'd their Father's Methods so successfully, that *Athens* had still nothing but the Name of Tyranny to complain of.

Here we must leave them in the quiet Possession of *Athens*, to take a view of another Ty-  
Account of Samos under Poly-  
ranny erected about the same time in *Samos*.  
crates.  
The Government of this Island had hitherto been in the hands of the People: *Herodotus* indeed mentions a former King under the Name of *Amphicrates*, but without the time or other

Circumstances of his Reign; and therefore we may look upon *Polycrates* as the first, of whom we have any certain Account. He having usurp'd the Government, at first divided it with his two Brothers; 'till having murder'd one, and banish'd the other, he became absolute, and establish'd himself by an Alliance with *Ægypt*. It was a Maxim with him, *That he gratify'd his Friend more by restoring what he had taken, than if he had never taken any thing from him.* Wherefore having made himself Master of a Fleet of a hundred Sail, he harass'd all the Country about him; made his Name formidable both in *Europe* and *Asia*; and had such an incredible Glut of Good-fortune to encourage his Attempts, that from oppressing his Subjects and Neighbours, he aspir'd to the Sovereignty of *Greece*. In the mean while an exil'd Party of the *Samians*, tho' they were an *Athenian* Colony, address'd themselves to the *Lacedæmonians* for their Assistance. For *Sparta* by her strict Discipline, and the late successful Effects of it in the *Messenian* Wars, had so far got the start of her Neighbours in military Glory, that the first Application of any State in Distress, was generally made to her. The *Lacedæmonians* gave them a satisfactory Answer, as thinking it necessary to stop the Tyrant's Progress: So that whatever specious Pretences they form'd to palliate the Business, they resolv'd to proceed against him as a common Enemy. Accordingly they

they arriv'd at *Samos* with a great Fleet, and invested the City: But attempting to storm it, were repuls'd with Loss; and having lain forty Days before it, were forc'd to raise the Siege, and return home. Those *Samians*, who were in the Conspiracy, when they found they had miscarry'd in this Enterprize, retir'd into *Crete*, and built *Cydonia*: but *Polycrates* was soon after betray'd into the Hands of the *Persians*, and nail'd to a Cross. The *Samians* were so remiss in asserting their Freedom upon his Death, that they suffer'd him to be succeeded by his Secretary *Mæandrius*. He was forced to give way to *Syloson*, the Brother of *Polycrates*; who returning from his Exile with a Body of *Persians*, possess'd himself of the Island, and treated the Inhabitants with great Severity. Yet still they admitted his Son *Æaces*; and tho' they recover'd their Liberty, by the Expulsion of this latter, it was not owing so much to their own Endeavours, as to the Juncture of Affairs at that time, which wrought a general Change of Government throughout all the Cities of *Ionia*. Notwithstanding the ill Success of the *Lacedæmonians* against *Samos*, they were still importun'd and courted: And the *Platæans* were the next, who implor'd their Protection against the continual Insults of their Neighbours the *Thebans*. But they excus'd themselves, as lying at too great a distance to relieve 'em, and referr'd them to the *Athenians*: Who accordingly enter'd into a strict

*The Death of Polycrates.*

A. M.

3481.

Olymp.

64. 2.

*Mæandrius Syloson.*

*The Platæans Alliance with Athens.*

A. M.

3484.

Olymp.

65. 1.

Alliance with them; which for many Years after prov'd a great Eye-fore to the *Thebans*, and their Confederates.

But to return to *Athens*, this Harmony in the State, after it had lasted about fourteen Years from the Death of *Pisistratus*, was destroy'd by an Accident, which befel *Hipparchus*. He was a Man of Wisdom and Learning, but being naturally amorous, fell in Love with a young Man call'd *Harmodius*; and finding after many Solicitations he would not comply, to be reveng'd of him, offer'd Violence to his Sister. *Harmodius* acquainted his Friend *Aristogiton* with the whole Affair; who being also a passionate Admirer of him, they form'd a Conspiracy against *Hipparchus*, and the Tyranny. They fix'd the Execution of their Designs upon the Feast of *Panathenæa*, because at that time they might go arm'd without Suspicion; and taking their Opportunity, rush'd in upon him, and

Hipparchus kill'd.  
 stabb'd him, but were themselves also slain in the Tumult. *Hippias*, to prevent further Disorders, got all those disarm'd whom he could any way suspect as Accomplices in the Enterprize; and tho' he was sufficiently exasperated at his Brother's Death, he did not think this a proper time to resent it. But not knowing how far this Accident might contribute to the Subversion of the Tyranny, he thought it necessary to strike a Terror into his Subjects, before they had gain'd too far upon him. So that

that from that time he became cruel and imperious, and endeavour'd to establish himself by Measures quite contrary to those he had hitherto pursued.

But the *Athenians* being more thoroughly rous'd by this violent Proceeding, thought it time to throw off the Yoke, when they felt the weight of it. The chief who stirr'd in it were the *Alcmaeonide*, a part of *Megacles's* Faction, descended from *Nestor* by *Alcmaeon*, and driven out of *Messenia* by the *Heraclide*. They distrusting their own Strength, corrupted the *Pythia* to engage the *Lacedaemonians* in their Quarrel: so that whatever Business the *Spartans* consulted about at *Delpbi*, the Oracle constantly propos'd to them the setting *Athens* at liberty. By which repeated Advice, they were forc'd to undertake it as a point of Religion; and accordingly sent an Army under the Command of *Anchimolius*. The *Pisistratide* having notice of it, procur'd a thousand Horse out of *Thessaly*; who falling in upon the *Spartan* Camp, slew the General, with many others, and beat the rest to their Ships. The *Lacedaemonians* afterwards sent another Army by Land under *Cleomenes* the Son of *Anaxandrides*, who engaging with the *Thessalian* Horse, kill'd about forty, and put the rest to flight. After which the *Pisistratide* retir'd into the City, and order'd their Children to be convey'd away privately: But the *Spartans* happening to intercept them, would accept of no other

Hippias  
expell'd.  
A. M.  
3493.  
Olymp.  
67. 3.

other Ransom, than that their Parents should within five Days leave *Attica*: Which accordingly they did; and *Hippias* went immediately to *Lampsacus*, (whose Prince had marry'd his Daughter) having not possess'd the Tyranny above four Years after his Brother's Death. Thus was *Athens* reinstated with a full Appearance of Liberty, after an Interruption of one and fifty Years; thirty five of which *Pisistratus* and his Sons were actually in possession of the Government. This Change was immediately owing to the *Alcmaeonidae*; but *Harmodius*, and *Aristogiton* were so far instrumental in it, that, because they began the Attempt, and fell a Sacrifice to the Cause, the *Athenians* erected Statues to their Memory, with a Decree that their Names should never be given to any Slaves. They also consecrated a Lions without a Tongue, in honour of *Leana Aristogiton's* Mistress; who being put to the Torture by *Hippias*, to force her to a Discovery of the Plot, she bit off her Tongue, and spit it in the Executioner's Face, that she might not have it in her Power to confess.

*The End of the First Book.*

T H E





THE  
GREEKIAN  
HISTORY.

BOOK II.

*The Affairs of Greece, from the intire Sub-  
version of the Regal Power in Athens,  
to the End of the Poloponnesian War.*

*Containing the Space of 105 Years.*

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CHAP. I.

*From the Expulsion of Hippias to the Battle  
of Marathon.*

*Containing the Space of 20 Years.*



REECE was no sooner settled under her several new Forms of Government, but the whole Power of *Asia* threatned her with unavoidable Destruction. This was the famous *Persian War*; wherein tho' *Athens* was principally

pally concern'd, the other States were oblig'd for their common Interest and Safety to unite as they did in the *Trojan War*: And as that first general Expedition put an end to the *Infancy of Greece*, so did this to its *Minority*. But before we pass into *Asia* we must take a View of *Athens* and *Sparta*, with the most remarkable Transactions that happen'd before the coming down of the *Persian*, being chiefly such as contributed towards it.

Cliftbenes  
and Isago-  
ras.

The Regal Power was no sooner abolish'd in *Athens*, but the People wrested too great a Share of the Government into their Hands: So that things were carry'd by Tumult and Faction; and they were seldom free from as great or worse Disorders than those they complain'd of under their Kings. The first Contest after the Expulsion of the *Pisistratide*, was between *Cliftbenes* and *Isagoras*, two principal Men of the *City*, who were both grasping at the same Power which they had so lately been very instrumental in suppressing. *Cliftbenes* finding his Party too weak to carry it with a high Hand, fell in with the People, and from an Invader of their Liberties, set up for a Patriot. To this end he chang'd the Names of the Tribes, increasing the Number from four to ten; and added an hundred to the *Council of four hundred*, ordering Fifty to be chosen annually out of each Tribe.

But

But his most popular Act was the *Ostracism*; <sup>*The Ostracism.*</sup> which by some is carry'd as high as *Theseus*, but more generally granted to have been introduc'd about this time, and ascrib'd to *Clisthenes* as the Author, who is also recorded as the first Example of his own Law. The manner of performing it was, that every Citizen, not under sixty Years old, should give in a Name written upon a *Tile* or *Oystershell*, (from whence it had its Name) and he, upon whom the Majority fell, was pronounc'd banish'd for ten Years. The Pretence of this Institution was not to punish those as Offenders who had deserv'd well of the State, but only to blunt the Edge of Envy by removing the Object; and for this reason their Estates were preserv'd intire for them till their Return. But the real Design was to take off all such as for Reputation, Quality, Riches, or Eloquence, were esteem'd above the common Level: Which was a barbarous Discouragement to all sorts of Merit and Ambition, and yet judg'd necessary in a State where all were to be of equal Credit and Authority. And therefore it obtain'd not only in *Athens*, but also in *Argos*, *Megara*, *Miletus*, and *Syracuse*, tho' under different Names, and with several Restrictions. The last who suffer'd this way was *Hyperbolus* an idle rascally Fellow, who made it his Business to furnish Scandal for the Stage, and was made use of by the People as a necessary Tool to asperse Men of Interest and Reputation.

It

It happen'd that *Alcibiades*, *Nicias*, and *Pheax* being of different Factions, and bearing a great Sway in the State, lay open to the Envy of the inferior Citizens; who therefore would have one of them banish'd. Which they having notice of, united their Parties and turn'd the *Ostracism* upon *Hyperbolus*, who had set the People against 'em. But this was thought such a Contempt put upon the thing, that upon his Account it was laid aside.

*Isagoras* being by these Methods over-power'd at home, betook himself to *Cleomenes* the *Spartan* King, with whom he had contracted an Intimacy during the War with *Hippias*. He espous'd his Quarrel, and having got *Clisibenes* and the Heads of his Party banish'd the City, march'd thither with an Army, and expell'd seven hundred Families more of those who were likely to make head against him, but did it under a Pretence of their not having expiated the Death of *Cylon*. His next Attempt was to dissolve the Senate, and commit the Administration to three hundred of *Isagoras's* Faction: But this being strongly oppos'd both by Senate and People, he seiz'd the Castle, where he suffer'd himself for two Days to be besieg'd. On the third *Isagoras*, and *Cleomenes* with his *Spartans*, had leave to depart; but the *Athenians*, who had been assisting in this Enterprize, were imprison'd and put to Death. After which *Clisibenes*, with the seven hundred Families, was recall'd ;

call'd ; who finding it not safe to make any further Attempts upon the Liberty of *Athens*, restor'd the *Democracy*, as settled by *Solon*.

But the *Athenians* knowing how they had incens'd the *Lacedæmonians*, thought it necessary to be upon their Guard, and therefore sent to enter into Alliance with the *Persian*, who made that a Pretence to demand of 'em *Earth* and *Water*, the usual Tokens of Homage and Subjection, by which was yielded up the Sovereignty and Propriety of all included in those Elements. The Ambassadors finding they would not treat with them upon any other Terms, consented to it, but were mightily blam'd at their Return, as having acted so much below the Dignity of the State: And indeed this servile Compliance may be consider'd as one remote Cause of the *Persian Descent*.

*Cleomenes* in the mean while was levying Forces to make another Attempt in behalf of *Isagoras* ; with which he march'd into *Attica* ; having contracted with the *Bæotians* and *Chalcidians* of *Eubœa*, to second his Attack in other Places at the same time. The *Athenians* thus distress'd on all sides, chose first to meet the *Peloponnesians* lying in *Eleusis* ; and just as they were making up to them, the *Corinthians* mov'd with the Injustice of their Cause, drew off, and were seconded by *Demaratus* the other *Spartan* King. The rest following their Example, the whole Army was dispers'd without any Action.

Action. But the *Athenians* reek'd their Revenge upon the *Boeotians*, killing and taking many of them Prisoners; and passing over the same Day into *Eubæa*, did the like by the *Chalcidians*. The *Thebans* in this Extremity contracted a League with *Ægina*, a small Island but very rich and powerful at Sea: It was withal a profess'd Enemy to *Athens*; and was so conveniently situated for annoying her, that *Pericles* was wont to call it *The Eye-sore of the Piræus*. While the *Æginetans* were infesting the Coasts of *Attica*, the *Lacedæmonians* took this Opportunity to renew their Quarrel with the *Athenians*, whom, since the Recovery of their Liberty had put them into a flourishing Condition, they began to look upon as Rivals. The best way of reducing them they thought would be to place a Tyrant over them; and finding they could do no good with *Isagoras*, they sent for *Hippias*, with a Design to reinstate him: But debating the Matter among their Confederates, it was violently oppos'd, particularly by *Soficles* a *Corinthian*, who inveighing against this and all other sorts of Tyranny, nothing more was done in it. So that *Hippias* return'd into *Asia*, and having got an Interest in the *Persian* Court, made it his Business to incense them against *Athens*, in hopes by their Assistance to be restor'd: And he so far prevail'd, that when the *Athenians* sent to vindicate their Proceedings, telling 'em, *That Hippias, as being an Exile, ought not to have any*

*Credit*

*Credit or Countenance among them; the Answer they receiv'd, was, That if they would be safe they must admit Hippias. Athens having so lately thrown off the Yoke, had too lively a Sense of her past Calamities to accept the Condition, and resolv'd rather to suffer the last Extremity, than open her Gates again to a Tyrant. Which Refusal is to be consider'd as a principal Circumstance in the Quarrel between Greece and Persia.*

But to set these Affairs in a clear Light, we must begin our Account of 'em in *Ionia*, where the War was kindled, and from whence it spread in its Progress, and was never thoroughly extinguish'd, but in the intire Subversion of the *Persian Monarchy*. The *Ionians* with the *Æolians*, *Carians*, and others stretching along the Sea-Coast of the *Lower Asia*, came to form a very considerable Body of Men, and went under the general Name of the *Asiatick Grecians*, being govern'd chiefly by their own Laws, with a full Enjoyment of their Liberty for about five hundred Years from their first settling in those Parts. After which they were over-topp'd by the Growth of *Lydia*, and made tributary to *Cræsus*, who subdu'd them; till *Lydia* itself soon after falling into the Hands of the *Persians*, they were also assign'd over with it as a Part of the *Lydian Territory*, having Governors plac'd over their several Cities, whom they call'd their Tyrants. But as an half-conquer'd People, they were ready upon all Occa-

*The Grounds of the Persian War.*

*The Affairs of the Lesser Asia.*

Occasions to rebel, and made several unsuccessful Struggles both in *Cyrus's* time, and after him : The *Ionians* particularly, who bore the greatest Sway among them, and made as remarkable a Figure as any of the *Grecian* Colonies, could not brook this being shifted about from one to another, and therefore let no Advantage slip which they could hope to improve into the Recovery of their Liberty.

That which favour'd their Designs at this time was an Expedition of *Darius Hystaspes* the *Scythian Persian* King, against the *Scythians* : In order to which he had laid a Bridge over the *Ister*, and transported a numerous Army, leaving the *Ionians* and their Neighbours at the Bridge, to secure his Retreat, and assist him with their Shipping. Whilst *Darius* was advanc'd into the Country, the *Ionians* finding him and his whole Army at their Disposál, fell into a Debate whether they should execute their Charge, or, by breaking down the Bridge, leave them to the Fury of the Enemy. Besides their own Inclinations for the latter, the *Scythians* perswaded 'em to return home ; assuring them that *Darius* would never more be in a Capacity of doing 'em good or harm. But the chief Encourager of this Motion was the famous *Miltiades* an *Athenian*, descended from *Codrus*, whose Ancestors had retir'd during the Tyranny of *Pisistratus*, and left him at this time in the Government of the *Thracian Chersonese*. He re-  
presented



presented the Easiness and Consequence of such an Action, telling them, *This was their time to free themselves from the Persian Yoke.* And they had certainly follow'd his Advice, if *Histiæus*, Tyrant of *Miletus*, a principal City of *Ionis*, had not strongly oppos'd it, urging to the other Tyrants, *That their Power was too precarious to subsist of itself, unless supported by the King their Master; and that therefore their Safety depended intirely upon his.* Which Argument sway'd so much with them, that the Project fell; and *Darius* being oblig'd to retire out of *Scythia*, they conducted him safe into *Asia*. Who, that he might make up in one Country, the Losses he sustain'd in another, left *Megabyzus* in *Europe* with eighty thousand Men to reduce *Thrace*, and other maritime Places; after which he thought *Macedonia* would fall of course. This General soon executed the King's Order; and then dispatch'd seven principal Men of the Army to *Amyntas*, King of *Macedonia*, to demand *Earth and Water*. Who, doubting his own Strength, not only comply'd with their Demands, but gave 'em a splendid Entertainment, in the height of which, when they were heated with Wine, they desir'd *Amyntas* to crown so magnificent a Feast with the usual Freedoms of Gallantry, and that, as an Earnest of their being welcome, the Wives and Daughters of the *Macedonians* might be admitted into the Company. No

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sooner

sooner were the Women come into the Room, but the *Persians* behav'd themselves with great Immodesty towards them: Upon which *Alexander*, *Amyntas's* Son, desir'd his Father, in regard to his Age and Gravity, to retire, and leave him to keep them within bounds, or else to chastise their Insolence. Accordingly he took the Women out of the Room, under pretence of dressing 'em up to appear more agreeable, and in their stead brought in the same number of young Men in female Apparel, with Daggers under their Clothes; who watching their Opportunity, when the Strangers began to be free with them, stabb'd every Man of 'em, with their Retinue. *Megabyzus* hearing nothing of his Messengers, sent *Bubares* with part of the Army, to make a strict Inquiry into the Business: But he was taken off by Marriage with *Alexander's* Sister, and so the Matter fell. The next Year *Otanes* being sent as Successor to *Megabyzus*, reduc'd the Cities *Chalcedon* and *Byzantium*, with the Island *Lemnos*, and other Places of less note. *Darius* himself

*Histieus* was now retir'd to *Susa*, and with him *Histieus*; who being of a working Head, and restless Spirit, and presuming upon his Service at the *Ister*, the King did not think it safe to leave him behind; and therefore took him by fair means, under a pretence of using him as his Counsellor and Companion. But *Histieus* saw too far into his Designs, to be easy under this Change,

Change, which he look'd upon but as a more specious sort of Imprisonment; and therefore made it his business to excite the *Ionians* to rebel, in hopes, that in regard to his Interest in that Country, he should be sent to reduce them, and from thence pick out some Opportunity of setting up for himself.

To this end, he sent secret Instructions to *and Aristagoras* his Deputy at *Miletus*, who was easily tempted to that which he was going to undertake of himself. For having propos'd to *A. M. Darius* the Conquest of the *Cyclades* Islands in <sup>3502.</sup> *the Aegean* Sea, and miscarry'd in his first At- <sup>Olymp.</sup> tempt upon *Naxos*, he thought of encouraging the *Ionians* to revolt, as a means to secure his Interest in those Parts, and prevent his being call'd to account for Mismanagement. His first Step was to abandon his own Tyranny; whereby having sufficiently oblig'd the *Milesians*, they assisted him in procuring the same Liberty for the other Cities: By which plausible Methods he soon had the whole Country at his Command. And to strengthen himself by Sea, he surpris'd the *Persian* Fleet, of which he was lately Admiral in the Enterprize of *Naxos*. But not having any sufficient Force to oppose to the whole *Persian* Army, which he knew would soon be upon him, he went to *Sparta*; where he set forth the Riches of *Asia*, with the Weakness of the Inhabitants, in hopes to engage *Cleomenes* to join with him in the

Conquest of *Perſia*. But not prevailing, he went from thence to *Athens*, where he us'd the ſame Arguments, adding, that the *Mileſians*, as an *Athenian* Colony, might very reaſonably expect their Aſſiſtance.

*And engage  
the Athe-  
nians in the  
Quarrel.*

The *Athenians* had at this time met with ſuch very rough Treatment from the *Perſian* in the Buſineſs of *Hippias*, that they readily embrac'd this Opportunity of ſhewing their Reſentment; and accordingly mann'd out twenty Ships, to which the *Eretrians* of *Eubœa* added five more. *Ariſtagoras*, with theſe joint Forces, fell upon the *Perſian* Frontiers, and ſurpris'd *Sardis*, the capital City of *Lydia*. *Artaphernes*, who reſided here as Vice-Roy of *Lydia* and *Ionia*, was glad to ſecure himſelf in the Caſtle, from whence he beheld the Citizens ſlaughter'd, and the Town in Flames. The *Perſians* and *Lydians* at laſt getting into a Body, charg'd the Enemy, and drove 'em to the Sea-side, killing many in the Purſuit, and forcing the reſt to ſhelter themſelves in *Ephesus*, and other neighbouring Cities. The *Athenians* could by no means be perſuaded to rally after this Deſeat; ſo that what they had done, ſerv'd only to incenſe the *Perſian*, without any Honour or Advantage to themſelves. But the *Ionians*, knowing they were gone too far to retreat, reſolv'd to push on their Fortunes without them: And having taken *Byzantium*, with other Towns upon the *Helleſpont*, drew over *Cyprus*, with a great part of *Caria*,

*Caria*, into their Alliance. But a sudden Stop was put to their Progress by a sharp Conflict at *Cyprus*, wherein the two Generals *Artybius* the *Persian*, and *Onesilas* the *Cyprian*, who encourag'd the Revolt of that Island, were kill'd. By Sea the *Ionians* had some Advantage; but the *Cyprians* were so intirely routed by Land, that they were forc'd again to submit to the *Persian* Yoke in a Year after they had thrown it off. The *Ionians*, upon the ill Success of this Battle, made to their Ships, leaving the *Persians* in a condition to act offensively: So that they easily reduc'd *Caria*, and most of the Towns upon the *Hellespont* and *Propontis*, with *Clazomenæ* in *Ionia*, and *Cumæ* in *Æolia*. Whereupon *Aristagoras* fled to *Thrace*, and being oppos'd by the Inhabitants, was cut off with all his Forces. Aristagoras kill'd.

*Histiæus* finding things grown to a head, thought it time to stir: And tho' *Darius* suspected him, he still carry'd it fair with him, and trusted him with a Commission to go and pacify the Troubles in *Ionia*. But when he came to *Sardis*, *Artaphernes* could not forbear taxing him as the Incendiary, telling him plainly, *That the Shoe which Aristagoras had put on, was of his making*. So that finding himself detected, he knew not where to fix, but kept in continual Motion from one Place to another, in hopes to pick up Strength enough to carry on his Designs by open Force. But he who

had acted on both Sides, was not easily trusted by either; neither would his own Friends the *Milefians* admit him into their City, tho' they had at this time need enough of his Assistance. For the War being pretty well over in other Parts, was carry'd on with the greater Vigour in *Ionian*; and the chief of the *Persian* Forces were employ'd against *Miletus*. The *Milefians* had no Land Army to oppose them: But by the Assistance of their Neighbours, particularly the *Cbians*, *Lesbians* and *Samians*, they furnish'd out a Fleet of between three and four hundred Sail. The *Persian* Navy consisted chiefly of *Phœnicians*, *Cyprians*, *Egyptians* and *Cilicians*; and tho' they had the Superiority by almost double the number of Vessels, they thought it more advisable to treat with the several Tyrants whom *Aristagoras* had depos'd, to draw off their Citizens, than to hazard an Engagement. While they were managing this Affair, the *Samians* concluded it would be to no purpose to incur the Anger of the *Persian*, who, if he were defeated now, could soon send a Fleet five times as large; and therefore were the first who went off. The Confederacy being once broke, the *Lesbians*, with a great part of the *Ionians*, follow'd: So that the *Cbians* alone stood to it, and were worsted. The *Persians* having carry'd their Point at Sea, left the *Milefians* nothing but their Walls to trust to; and it was not long before the City was closely

closely block'd up, taken, and plunder'd, part of the Citizens being slain, and the rest carry'd <sup>Miletus taken.</sup> Prisoners with their Wives and Children to *Susa*. The Fate of this City did in a manner put an end to the War. But *Histiæus*, who only waited to form his Measures according to the Event of this Siege, by the help of some *Leſſians*, easily subdu'd *Chios*, which was just before drain'd and weaken'd: and having pick'd up more scatter'd Remains of the *Ionians* and *Æolians*, pass'd from thence into *Mysia* upon some greater Expedition. But falling in with *Harpagus*, who lay there with a considerable Body of *Persians*, lost most of his Men, was himself taken Prisoner, and carry'd to *Artaphernes*, who immediately nail'd him to a Cross, and sent his Head to *Darius*; who was so far from being pleas'd with the present, that he gave it honourable Interment, and lamented him as one who had deserv'd well of him, and his Country. Thus the *Ionian* Rebellion, which <sup>The Ionian Rebellion.</sup> had continu'd six Years from its first break- <sup>suppress'd.</sup> ing out under *Aristagoras*, was, by the Death <sup>A. M.</sup> of *Histiæus*, and the Fall of *Miletus*, intirely <sup>3508.</sup> suppress'd. For the Islands, and the Cities on <sup>Olymp.</sup> the Continent fell in of course, when there was <sup>71. 1.</sup> no body left to head them: And this was the third time the *Ionians* were forc'd to undergo the Yoke, first under the *Lydians*, and twice under the *Persians*.

*Darius*, whilst he was settling the Tribute, and securing his Conquests, cast his Thoughts upon *Europe*, and made several Attempts on that side with various Success: So that the End of this War was in effect but the Beginning of that long Train of Evils which he brought upon himself and his Successors. Two Years after the taking of *Miletus*, he withdrew the Commissions of his late Captains, and sent in their

*Mardonius* room *Mardonius*, who had marry'd his Daughter, with a good sufficient Fleet and Army. He

*the Persian General,*

went first into *Ionia*; where, to keep the Inhabitants firm to the *Persian* Interest, he dissolv'd all the Tyrannies, and restor'd the *Democracy*. His next Expedition was with his Fleet against *Thasus*, a rich Island over-against *Thrace*, the Land Forces being employ'd at the same time in reducing the other Parts of *Macedonia*, which had not yet declar'd for his Master. Having been thus far successful, he coasted along by

*His fruitless Expedition.*

Mount *Atbos*, where he met with such a violent Storm, that he lost three hundred of his Vessels, and in 'em above twenty thousand Men. It happen'd just after, that the Foot being quartered in *Macedonia*, the *Brygi*, a People of *Thrace*, fell upon 'em by Night, kill'd many, and wounded *Mardonius*. And tho' he soon rally'd, and subdu'd 'em, he durst not pursue his Conquests, but return'd home with his shatter'd Fleet, and the Remains of his Army.

*These*



These Successes did so little answer the Loss of so many Ships and Men, that they serv'd rather to incense, than satisfy *Darius*, and made him resolve to send Force enough the next Year to do the Business effectually. He began now to declare himself obstinately bent upon the Conquest of *Greece*; to which Resolution many Circumstances concurr'd. Ever since the burning of *Sardis*, he had vow'd Revenge upon the *Asbenians*, and order'd one every time he sat down to Table, to cry out, *Sir, Remember the Asbenians*. He could much easier have pardoned the *Ionians*, tho' they were the principal Aggressors, as not thinking they would have dar'd to attempt any thing against him, but at the Instigation of those, whose Ignorance, or Contempt of his Power, might encourage 'em to provoke him. As for the Islanders, they had furnish'd out a great number of Ships against him: And the Pretence of making it a national Quarrel, was, that they had all in general given his Rebels free Harbour. To add to which, *Hippias* was always at hand to aggravate these Matters, that being the only means left him to recover his Tyranny. Not but the Business was likely enough to have proceeded without him. For the Noise the principal States of *Greece* began now to make in the World, could not but alarm the *Persian* Greatness; And *Darius* in the beginning of his Reign seem'd resolv'd to crush 'em, by sending several as Spies under the Conduct

duft of *Democedes*, to take an exact Survey of the Country.

In order therefore to this intended Invasion, he first try'd how the several Cities stood affected, sending to 'em all to demand *Earth and Water*; but at the same time gave Orders to the Cities upon the Sea-coasts to 'build long Ships, and flat-bottom'd Boats, for the Transportation of Horse. The *Lacedemonians* and *Athenians* threw the Messengers into deep Pits, telling 'em, *There was Earth and Water to carry to their Master*. He who advis'd this, was said to be *Miltiades*; who besides his being an *Athenian*, had a personal Pique against the *Persians*, for forcing him from his Government of the *Chersonese*, when they had invaded the *Thracian* Territories. The *Aeginetans* with some other Islands comply'd; and were thereupon accus'd by the *Athenians*, as having betray'd the Liberty of their Country, only for an Opportunity of fighting them to advantage. The Matter was heard, and resent'd at *Sparta*; and

*Some Com-  
motions at  
Sparta.*

*Cleomenes* went immediately to *Agina* to punish the Heads of the Revolt: But he had at that time a difference with his Colleague *Demaratus*, who under-hand defeated his Designs. *Cleomenes* to be reveng'd of him, at his Return us'd his utmost Efforts to get him depos'd; and the Pretence was his being illegitimate. It seems *Ariston*, the Father of *Demaratus*, having no Children by two Wives, took a third, who

was

was already marry'd to one of his Friends, which was allowable according to *Lycurgus's* Laws: And having this Son by her in seven Months after Marriage, he swore it was none of his. But for fear the Line of *Procles* should fail, the State took no notice of it, and he own'd the Child, leaving him Successor to his Crown and Virtues, he being noted as the first *Spartan* King, who conquer'd in the *Olympick* Games. But upon this Contest between the two Kings, the old Business of Bastardy was trump'd up, and the Oracle was to decide it. The *Pythia* being corrupted by *Cleomenes*, gave it against *Demaratus*: So that this, and his former Retreat out of *Attica*, which was the Grounds of the Quarrel, being objected against him, he was dethron'd, and succeeded by his Kinsman *Leutychides*. *Demaratus*, tho' he express'd a Love for his Country, went over to the *Persian*; by whom he was easily receiv'd at this Juncture, and entertain'd with all the Honour due to his Character. As for *Cleomenes*, he was soon after detected; and being struck with Remorse for the Injustice he had done his Colleague, in a fit of Phrensy rip'd up his own Belly. Nor did it fare much better with *Leutychides*, who afterwards prov'd a Traitor to his Country, and being convicted of Bribery, dy'd in Exile.

But he, with *Cleomenes*, had first taken ten of the principal Men of *Ægina*, and left 'em as Hostages

*The War  
with Ægi-  
na.*

Hostages at *Athens*. Which the *Æginetans* having often complain'd of, and receiv'd no Redress, intercepted a Ship going to *Delos*, (according to a yearly Custom observ'd ever since *Theseus's* time) and in it some of the principal Men of *Athens*, whom, by way of Reprisal, they made Prisoners. Which so incens'd the *Athenians*, that they mann'd out seventy Gallies, and agreed at the same time to have the City of *Ægina* betray'd to 'em: But the Fleet coming too late to second the Attempt by Land, that Design miscarry'd. However the Fleets engag'd, and the *Æginetans* were worsted: But being reinforc'd, they ventur'd another Battle and got the better. This War seems to have been of a longer continuance, tho' we have very little Light into the Particulars: But we may observe in general, that these civil Discords which seem'd to favour the Designs of the common Enemy, did in a great measure procure the Safety of *Greece*, by putting the *Athenians* upon the Study of Sea-Affairs, and by that means preparing them for the *Persian*. So that they easily wrested the Sovereignty of the Seas from the Islanders, and particularly the *Æginetans*, who had held it twenty Years; and that at a time when the Eyes and Hopes of all *Greece* were upon them, and when they could have done very little without it.

Whilst the *Athenians* were engag'd in this War, *Darius* prosecuted his Designs upon *Greece*:  
And

And having levy'd an Army of an hundred thousand Foot according to the lowest Computation, (for *Justin* reckons six times as many) and ten thousand Horse, gave the chief Command to *Datis* a *Mede*, in the room of *Mar-donius*, under whom the Fleet had miscarry'd, appointing *Artaphernes* his Brother's Son, and *Hippias* as his Assistants, and giving them an exprefs Command to bring the *Athenians* and *Eretrians* Prisoners to him, and to lay waste their Country. Accordingly they embark'd in six hundred Gallies, besides Transports for the Horse : And directly crossing the *Ægean* Sea, possess'd themselves of *Samos*, *Naxos*, *Delos*, and the rest of the *Cyclades*, to secure their Passage. From thence they sail'd to *Eubæa*; where the *Eretrians*, tho' the *Athenians* had lent 'em four thousand Men, thought it more adviseable to send 'em home and keep within their Walls, than to offer Battle to such unequal Numbers. For six Days the *Persians* attempted to storm the City and were repulsed with Loss; but on the seventh it being betray'd into their Hands, they enter'd, plun-<sup>Eretria</sup> der'd and burnt it. From thence *Hippias* con-<sup>taken.</sup> ducted them into *Attica*; and they encamp'd in the Plains of *Marathon* ten Miles distant from *Athens*. The *Athenians* having notice of their March, and being sensible of the Disproportion, dispatch'd Messengers to *Sparta* for their speedy Assistance; and in the mean time chose ten of their Citizens to command their Forces, one out of

of each *Tribe*. The *Lacedæmonians* seem'd very willing to assist 'em; but being to be detain'd four Days upon a religious Account, it was debated among the *Athenians*, *Whether they should wait for a Summons from the Enemy as the Eretrians did, within their Walls, or go out to meet 'em.* *Miltiades* earnestly press'd the latter, and with much Difficulty prevail'd. Accordingly they took the Field with only nine thousand of their own Men and one thousand *Platæans*. Each Captain assign'd his Day of Command to *Miltiades*, who had by this means the whole Management of

*The Battle of Marathon.* the Battle; however he chose to put the Issue of it upon his own Day. He was sensible that

A. M. he had not a sufficient Number of Men to enlarge his Front in any Proportion to that of the Enemy, nor to give it any considerable Depth; and therefore drew up his Army at the Foot of a Mountain, so as to prevent its being surrounded. And tho' he was weak in the Center, he made his Wings very strong, and fenc'd them in with large Trees, which he had order'd to be cut down to hinder the *Persian* Cavalry from breaking in and flanking them.

*Datis*, notwithstanding this Disposition, relied so much upon his Numbers that he resolv'd to engage; and he chose the rather to do it before the Reinforcement, which was expected from *Sparta*, could come up. The Signal was no sooner given, but the *Athenians*, instead of waiting the Onset of the *Persians*, rush'd in upon them

them with such Fury and Precipitation, that they thought they were rather to be laugh'd at as Madmen than dreaded as Enemies. But considering their *All* was at Stake, and that they had nothing for it but making their way through the Enemy, Despair added to their natural Courage, and they held the Victory long in Suspence. The *Persians* made their strongest Efforts against the main Body of the *Grecians*, which stood the Charge with great Firmness and Intrepidity, till being oppress'd by Numbers, they were forc'd at last to give way. But at the same time both the *Athenian* Wings prevail'd, which gave them an Opportunity of relieving the rest: And they did so effectually, that they soon turn'd the Fortune of the Day, and gain'd a Victory which had more of Truth in it than Probability. The *Persians* being disorder'd and routed, abandon'd their Camp and made to the Sea; and the *Grecians* pursu'd them to their very Ships, some of which they took, and some they burnt. And here I must not omit the Account that is given of *Cynegirus*, who, after he had fought with great Bravery in the Field, held a Gally full of *Persians* with his Right-hand, to keep it from putting off from Shore; which was no sooner lopp'd off, but he seiz'd it with his left, and having lost that too, he fix'd his Teeth in it, and expir'd. As to the Number of the Slain, *Herodotus* reckons six thousand four hundred *Persians*, and  
but

but one hundred and ninety two of the *Grecians*; among whom were few Officers of Note but *Callimachus*, who commanded one of the Wings, and deserves to be particularly remember'd, not only for his Behaviour in the Battle, but also for the Share he had in the bringing it on. For tho' he was not one of the *Ten Generals* who had the alternate Command of the Army, yet by virtue of his Office of *Polemarch*, he had a Right of voting with them when they were equally divided in Opinion, as it happen'd in the Council of War which was held before the Battle, and he gave the casting voice; which determin'd their going out to meet the Enemy in the Field. *Hippias* who was the chief Incendiary of the War, is thought to have felt in this Battle; tho' *Suidas* says he escaped and died miserably in *Lemnos*.

The News of this Victory was carried to *Athens* by one *Euclides*, who ran with his Wounds reeking from the Fight, and throwing himself into the Door of the first House he met with, cry'd, *Rejoice, we are triumphant*; and immediately expir'd.

Two thousand of the *Spartans*, whose Laws would not permit them to stir till the Full of the Moon, came at last into the Field: But the Action being over the Day before, they serv'd only to extol the Bravery of their Countrymen, and to congratulate them upon their Success. Among those who distinguish'd themselves upon this  
this



this Occasion, were *Aristides* and *Themistocles*, who commanded in the Center, where the Troops were thinnest, and where the Enemy press'd hardest: So that their supporting themselves so well as they did under those Circumstances, was a sufficient Argument of their Merit, and an early Promise of what was further to be expected from them. But the chief Honour of the Day was justly ascrib'd to the Valour and Conduct of *Miltiades*; whose Reward when he return'd to *Athens*, was only to have the Battle of *Marathon* represented in a Picture, with himself, giving his Orders at the head of the *Ten-Captains*. This Picture was preserv'd many Ages, with other Paintings of the best Masters, in the *Gallery*, or *Portico*, where *Zeno* afterwards instituted his *School of Philosophy*. Another Monument of this Action, was a Statue made by *Pheidias* of the Goddess *Nemesis*, who had a Temple near the Field of Battle: And a very remarkable Circumstance of it, was, that it was cut out of a piece of Marble which the *Persians*, in Confidence of their gaining the Victory, had brought with them for erecting a Trophy.

After the Battle there was an Attempt made by the *Persian* Fleet to surprize the City of *Athens*, before the Forces cou'd arrive from *Marathon*: But the greatest part of them got in time enough for its Defence, by which means this Design likewise miscarry'd: Thereupon

the *Persians* retir'd into *Asia*, having nothing to cover their Disgrace but their Prisoners whom they took in *Eretria*. These were presented to *Darius* at *Susa*, and settled near the *Tigris* upon much better Terms than they could expect : So that they, with their Posterity, flourish'd in a Body for several Ages, and retain'd their Language.

Notwithstanding the general Consternation occasion'd by this War, Philosophy receiv'd daily Improvement from the Successors of *Thales* and *Pythagoras*. And Poetry had still her Votaries:  
 Theognis. Among whom were *Theognis* and *Phocylides*;  
 Phocylides whose Writings were chiefly Precepts and Sentences of Morality, which the latter of them is said to have stole from the Writings of the  
 Anacreon. *Sibyls*. About the same Period dy'd *Anacreon* of *Teos* in *Ionia*; a Man of Ease and Pleasure, dividing all his Hours betwixt Wine, Love and Poetry. He was so profess'd an Enemy to the common Business and Cares of Life, that when *Polycrates* of *Samos*, with whom he was highly in favour, had made him a Present of five Talents, he could not sleep in two Nights after: Upon which he carry'd back the Treasure, and told his Patron, *That however considerable the Sum might be, it was not an equal Price for the Trouble of keeping it.* He wrote with the same unconcern'd Freedom and Gaiety that he liv'd; so that the best Image of his Manners is to be drawn from his Poems; where we meet with  
 all

all the flowing Easiness and Simplicity both of Thought and Expression, supported with the most lively and delicate Turns of Wit and Pleasantry. We may fancy his Muse like some of his Mistresses, airy, loose and negligent, not without the graceful Touches of Art, but without the Appearance of it. He liv'd eighty-five Years: And to make his End of a piece with his Life, he is said to have been chok'd with a Grape-stone in his Wine.



C H A P. II.

*From the Battle of Marathon, to the Retreat of Xerxes out of Greece.*

*Containing the Space of 10 Years.*

WHILST Miltiades was in full Credit and Esteem for his late Victory, the State decreed him seventy Gallies well mann'd to chastise the Islands, which had sided with the *Miltiades* *Parthian*. Several of 'em submitted; others he <sup>sent to chastise the</sup> reduc'd with ease; but coming to *Paros* to demand an hundred Talents, the Inhabitants chose rather to prepare for a vigorous Defence, than to hearken to any such Proposals: Whereupon he landed his Men, harass'd the Country, and block'd up the City. But when the Siege was well advanc'd, it happen'd, as *Nepos* tells the Story, that a Grove upon the Continent by

some Accident took fire; which being seen from the Island in the Night, and both Sides taking it for a Signal that the *Persian* Fleet was coming to the Relief of the *Parians*, *Miltiades* set fire to his Works and return'd home. This was interpreted by his Enemies, particularly *Xanthippus* the Father of *Pericles*, as a voluntary Miscarriage; and he was accus'd of being in League with the *Persian*. He was not in a Condition to answer this Charge, being confin'd to his Bed by a Fall he receiv'd at *Paros*, which *Herodotus* makes the Cause of his Retreat. But his Friends who appear'd for him, urg'd his many Services to the State, and bad 'em particularly *Remember Marathon*; yet could they prevail no further, than to get the Sentence of Death chang'd into a Fine of fifty Talents, (which was the Charge the State had been at in fitting out the Gallies) and Imprisonment till it were paid. But whatever Pretence the *Atbenians* made use of in his Condemnation, 'tis certain their Fear sway'd more with them than his Guilt. They thought him too well practis'd in Government to lead a private Life, especially after his Merit had gain'd him such a Power and Interest as might be improv'd into the Destruction of that Liberty he pretended to support. But this was not easily to be presum'd of one who had always carry'd himself with Humility, Justice, and Moderation: Nor could any thing less than an actual Attempt upon their

*His Character*

their Liberty, justify the Persecution of a Man to whom they ow'd their Lives and Fortunes, and in a great measure all their future Glory. For he first encourag'd 'em to look the *Persian* in the Face; and convinc'd them by his Example, that Numbers are not proof against Courage and Discipline. He lay some time under this Sentence, till the Bruise of his Thigh growing worse, turn'd to a Gangrene, and kill'd *and Death*. him. After which the *Atbenians* carry'd their Resentment so far, that they would not suffer him to be bury'd till his Son *Cimon* took the Debt upon himself. Thus fell *Miltiades* a Sacrifice to the groundless Jealousy of the People; a notorious Instance of the Capriciousness of Fortune, and his Country's Ingratitude.

The Success at *Marathon* gave some Years Respite to *Greece*; but so animated *Darius* to redeem his Honour by a second Attempt, that he order'd new Levies to be made, and spent three Years in his Preparations. After which *Egypt* happening to revolt, and there being the next Year a Contest among his Sons at home about the nominating his Successor, his Thoughts were diverted from proceeding against *Greece* with that Vigour he intended. When at last he came to a Resolution, and was provided for both Expeditions against *Greece* and *Egypt*, he dy'd, leaving the Prosecution of his *The Death of Darius*. Designs to his Son *Xerxes*.

A. M. *Mardonius*, upon his first Accession to the  
 3519. Throne, press'd him earnestly to the *European*  
 Olym. 73. War, backing his Arguments with the certainty  
 of Success. However this might fix his Ambition, he thought it of more immediate Consequence to reduce *Aegypt*; which with the Forces his Father left him, he easily compass'd: And having committed it to the Government of his Brother *Achamenes*, turn'd his Thoughts upon *Greece*. In a Council held for the Management of this War, he open'd his Intentions with a Speech full of Arrogance and Contempt. But his Uncle *Artabanus*, presuming upon his Age and Experience, was so far from soothing his Vanity, that he us'd his utmost Endeavours to dissuade him from so hazardous an Enterprize. From greneral Reflections on the Instability of Fortune, and the Uncertainty of all human Events, he descended to the Particulars of his Father's Reign, alledging that *To whatever Cause his ill Success in Scythia might be imputed; yet the Business of Marathon had given them too fresh and fatal an Instance of the Grecian Bravery, to look upon them as a despicable People: That he ought therefore to be well advis'd in an Affair of such Moment, that so he might at least justify his Conduct, tho' he could not warrant the Success.* *Xerxes* told him, *His Advice was nothing but the Result of Sloth and Cowardise; and that his Punishment should be to stay at home, and not share in the Glory of that Expedition.* But  
 upon

upon cooler Thoughts he seem'd better reconcil'd to his Uncle's Opinion; and his Ambition being temper'd with more Pride than Courage, kept him wavering, till at last being terrify'd with Dreams and Apparitions, or rather egg'd on by the Sons of *Hippias* and others, who had their several Interests to promote by this War, he resum'd his first Resolution.

Accordingly he sent to all the Sea-coasts to *Xerxes* his provide him Shipping; and in the mean time *Preparati-*  
 drain'd his whole Dominions, with all other *ons.*  
 Countries that had the least Dependence on him, to raise an Army suitable to the Vastness of his Design; which in four Years he at last compleated. The Horse were commanded by the Sons of *Datis*; and a select Body of ten thousand Foot by *Hydarnes*. This was call'd the *Immortal Regiment*, because it was constantly kept up and supply'd out of the rest. But the Chiefs of the Army was committed to *Mardonius*, who having the Princes of the Blood join'd with him as Assistants, commanded in chief. The first general Rendezvous of the Land-*His March.*  
 forces was at *Critale*; from whence passing the River *Halys*, they march'd to *Celene* a City of *Phrygia*; and winter'd at *Sardis*. *Xerxes*, during his Stay here, sent into *Greece* to demand *Earth* and *Water*; and the Fleet being come up to the *Chersonese*; he order'd a Passage of a Mile and an half long to be cut for it behind Mount *Atbos*, to avoid the Danger of Shipwreck, which

*Mardonius* before had suffer'd by sailing about In the beginning of the Spring he quitted *Sardis*; and from an Eminence which he had rais'd in the Plains of *Abydus*, took a View of his whole Force by Sea and Land: Where he could not forbear testifying his Pride and Joy to see himself Lord of so many united Nations; but soon after fell into the other Extremes of Passion, and could not without Tears reflect, *That not one of so many Thousands would be alive an hundred Years after*. This engag'd him in a melancholy Discourse with *Artabanus* about the Shortness and Miseries of Life; who from thence took occasion to insinuate his Doubts as he did before, about the Success of his Enterprize. He urg'd the many Inconveniencies he had to suffer, if not from the Enemy, at least from the Elements themselves; that his having no Port there sufficient to shelter such a Fleet upon any Accident, might prove very destructive to his Shipping; and that Plague, Famine, and Confusion were the necessary Attendants of such ungovernable Multitudes by Land. *Xerxes* told him in Answer, *That great Actions were necessarily attended with some proportionable Danger; and that it was impossible to provide for Accidents*. So that whatever Opinion he had of his Uncle's Wisdom in other Matters, he thought it too deliberate for the Camp, and sent him back as his Viceroy to *Susa*. Among other Marks of his presuming upon the Success



cess of his Expedition, at *Abydus* he saw some Ships which came from the *Euxine Sea*, and were sailing through the *Hellepont*; and being inform'd that they were laden with Corn, and bound to *Ægina*, and to *Peloponnesus*, he would not suffer them to be seiz'd. *Are not we also*, said he, *going to the same Place? And are not we oblig'd, among other things, to carry Corn with us? What harm then can they do us by carrying Corn thither, which must be ours?*

In order to his Passage into *Europe*, he had laid a Bridge cross the *Hellepont*, where it was about a Mile over; which being broke down by tempestuous Weather, he cut off the Heads of the Workmen, order'd the Sea itself to be whipp'd, as tho' it had rebell'd against its Sovereign, and cast a pair of Fetters into it, in token of its future Subjection. After which <sup>His Pas-</sup> he made two Bridges of Gallies ty'd together, <sup>sage into</sup> and so well anchor'd that they resisted the <sup>Europe.</sup> Winds; by which means the whole Army pass'd over in seven Days and Nights. This seems to have been the first Instance of that which afterwards became the common Method of *Cæsar* and others, to transport their Armies. *Xerxes* being got into *Europe*, order'd the Fleet to sail on Westwards, and march'd himself with the Land Forces through the *Chersonese*, gathering still more as he went; and encamp'd in a vast Plain near *Doriscus*, and well water'd with the River *Hebrus*, where he muster'd, and  
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*An Account of his Forces.*

number'd his whole Army. But as Historians differ in nothing more than the Accounts of Armies, so here we may with more ease collect from several Circumstances of their Preparations and March, that they were the greatest Army that ever appear'd in the Field, than assign any just Number. According to the most modest Computation, they amounted to at least seven hundred thousand Men. *Herodotus* reckons up seventeen hundred thousand Foot, and eighty thousand Horse; and makes an Accession of about three hundred thousand in their March. To these he adds above five hundred thousand belonging to the Fleet, which consisted of somewhat above twelve hundred long Gallies, besides three thousand Transportes and Ships of Burden. So that the whole of the *Asian* and *European* Forces by Sea and Land, he reckons at above two Millions and a half; and allows at least an equal Number of Women, Eunuchs, Slaves and other Attendants. This will easily account for *Plutarch* and *Isocrates*, when they say five Millions follow'd *Xerxes* into *Greece*; and thus it might be affirm'd without an *Hyperbole*, that they drank up several little Rivers in their March.

*The Grecian Preparations.*

*Greece* in the mean while was sufficiently alarm'd at these Approaches, but not so as to abandon all hopes of diverting the Storm. *Demaratus* the late *Spartan* King, who seems to have acted on both Sides, had from time to time given

given his Countrymen notice of *Xerxes's* Designs and Motions: And upon his Passage into *Europe* they summon'd a general Council in the *Isthmus*; where they solemnly resolv'd to wave all private Quarrels, and join in the Defence of their common Liberty, at the same time publishing their Intentions of putting to Death every tenth Man of those who went over to the Enemy. But this did not hinder the greatest part of *Bæotia* and *Theffaly*, with other petty States which lay most expos'd, from declaring for the *Persian*; especially after the ten thousand Men, who were sent into *Theffaly* under the Conduct of *Eumenes* the *Spartan* and *Themistocles* the *Athenian*, were return'd, as not thinking themselves able to protect them. The *Argives* also being sent to in this Extremity evaded their Assistance, by insisting on Terms which could not be accepted: So that partly out of Fear, and partly out of their inveterate Hatred to the *Lacedæmonians*, they held secret Intelligence with the Enemy. Thus the Burden of the War lay chiefly upon the *Athenians* and *Lacedæmonians*; who, when they found the *Persian* advanc'd through *Thrace* and *Macedonia*, resolv'd in another Council to oppose his Progress; and accordingly dispatch'd six thousand Men under the Command of *Leonidas* the famous *Spartan* King, to possess the Straits of *Thermopylæ*, a narrow Pass of twenty-five Foot wide between the Mountains, which divided  
*Theffaly*

*Thessaly* from the rest of *Greece*. There were in it the Remains of a Wall with Gates to it, which the *Phocians* had formerly built to secure them against the Incurſions of the *Thessalians*: And from theſe Gates, and ſome *hot Baths* which were at the Entrance into the *Paſs*, it obtain'd the Name of *Thermopylae*. This was pitch'd upon as the moſt proper Place for defeating the Advantage of the Enemy's Numbers, and for rendering their Horſe uſeleſs: And a further Conſideration with the *Grecians*, was its Situation near the Sea, where they could co-operate with their Fleet. In this Body of ſix thouſand Men there were but three hundred *Spartans*; the reſt conſiſting of *Baotians*, *Corinthians*, *Phocians*, *Arcadians*, and ſeveral other leſſer States, both within and without the *Iſthmus*, who each of them furniſh'd ſuch Proportions as they were able to raiſe in the preſent Exigency; and each of them aſſign'd particular Captains to their own Troops; but *Leonidas* had the Command of the whole.

As to Sea Affairs, there was the ſame Diſproportion as by Land: Whereupon they had Recourſe to the Islanders, moſt of which were their Allies and Colonies. *Sicily* was at that time able to furniſh out as many Ships as all *Greece*: But her Tyrant *Gelon* inſiſted upon being declar'd Commander in chief. As for *Crete*, ſhe had her Oracles firſt to conſult: And the *Corcyraens*, tho' they expreſs'd a Senſe of their

their common Danger, and hover'd about with sixty Sail, it was only with a Design to fall in with the Conqueror. So that the chief Dependence at Sea was upon *Athens*; whose late War with *Ægina* had put those two States in a Condition of defending the rest. This Genius for Sea Affairs was very opportunely improv'd by *Themistocles*, who, from a mean Extraction, became so active and aspiring as to complain at his first Appearance in the World, *That the Trophies of Miltiades would not let him sleep.* He had Boldness enough to propose, and Courage enough to execute any thing that might tend to his own and his Country's Honour. For an Instance of which, he got the Mony which was rais'd from the Mines, and ought to have been divided among the People, to be employ'd in Shipping: And so by the *Wooden Walls*, which the Oracle advis'd the *Athenians* to trust to, he would have nothing understood but their Ships. By these means the *Athenian* Fleet was increas'd to near two hundred Sail; and putting to Sea with the rest of the Confederates, making in all two hundred and eighty, stood over-against *Artemisum*, towards the North part of *Eubœa*.

*Xerxes* in the mean while drew down his numerous Forces towards the Straits of *Thermopylæ*, but rather for Terror and Ostentation, than with Thoughts of Fighting. For finding *Leonidas* ready to receive him, and his Men un-

unusually gay and unconcern'd, he sent to let them know, that *If they would lay down their Arms he would receive them as Friends and Confederates, and bestow upon them much richer and larger Countries than what they now possess'd.* They rejected his Offers with a becoming Scorn, telling him, *They should have occasion for their Arms, whether as his Friends or Enemies; that they desir'd no Country but what they won by their Virtue and Valour, and could maintain by the same Methods they got it.* Upon this the Persian address'd himself to Demaratus, asking him with an Air of Pity and Contempt, *What it was his Countrymen propos'd? Or, whether they could run faster than his Horses?* He told him, *He would find them resolv'd to fight it out to the last; and that not a Man of them would survive his Country's Liberty.* Agreeable to this was the Answer of Dieneceus a Spartan; who being told *That the Persian Darts would darken the very Sun: So much the better,* says he; *for then we shall fight in the Shade.*

Xerxes at last advanc'd with a Body of Medes, ordering those who had lost any of their Relations at the Battle of Marathon, to bear the Enemy from this Post, and revenge their dead

Friends. Accordingly they began the Onset, but were repuls'd with great Loss. Then mighty Numbers of raw undisciplin'd Fellows march'd against them, of whom a prodigious Slaughter was made: Nor did the Immortal Regiment,

which

*The Battle at Thermopylae.*

A. M.

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which was sent to relieve them, come off at a cheaper rate. The next Day *Xerxes* made a Detachment of the choicest of his Troops, with a Promise of large Rewards, if they would break in upon them and force the Pass. Upon which they made a violent Charge, but with no better Success than before: For the *Grecians* collected into a close Body stood the Shock, and fill'd the way with *Persian* Carcasses: So that being driven one upon another, the Confusion, and consequently the Slaughter was the greater. Thus did they keep their Ground for two Days; on the first of which, *Xerxes* was observ'd to leap three times from his Throne whereon he was plac'd to see the Battle: And being the next Day under the same Consternation, it happen'd that *Epialtes* a *Trachinian*, deserted from the *Grecians*, to shew him a secret way over a Ledge of Mountains, by which he might fall upon their Rear. *Leonidas* being inform'd that twenty thousand of the Enemy had lodg'd themselves on the Top of the Hills, advis'd his Companions to retire and reserve themselves for better Times, and the future Safety of Greece; that for his own part, he ow'd more to his Country than to himself, and that it was his Business to fall in the present Defence of it. Thus having dismiss'd all but three hundred Spartans, with some *Thebians* and *Thebans*, in all not a thousand Men, Come, Fellow-Soldiers, says he to them, Let us dine cheerfully, as if we were to sup together in the

*the other World.* And indeed they could propose nothing more than to fulfil the Oracle, which had declar'd the City, or King of *Sparta* must fall; at the same time to let the *Persian* see what Value they set upon their Liberty, and, as it were, to revenge their own Deaths, before they fell. Being thus animated, they study'd only how to sell their Lives as dear as they could; and thinking Death to be no where more honourably met with than in the Enemies Camp, they took the Advantage of the Night, and made directly to the Royal Pavilion, where endeavouring to surprize the King, they broke through the whole Camp, and kill'd or overthrew whatever oppos'd them. The Darkness of the Night added very much to the Confusion of the Enemy, insomuch that they fell one upon another without Distinction of Friend or Foe, and rather assisted the *Grecians* than defended themselves. Thus did they carry all before them, till Day-light discovering the Smallness of their Numbers, they were surrounded by the *Persians*, who gall'd them both in Flank and Rear; and even then not so much conquer'd, as tir'd with conquering, they fell among vast Heaps of the slaughter'd Enemy, leaving behind them the Example of an Intrepidity never known before. It is generally understood that these three hundred *Spartans* were kill'd to a Man: But two of them, whose Names are *Aristodemus* and *Panites*, went off before the  
Action,



Action upon frivolous Pretences. The former, upon his return to *Sparta*, was branded with Infamy, and treated with such Contempt that no body would converse, or have any thing to do with him. However he afterwards behav'd so well at the Battle of *Plataea*, that he redeem'd his Credit. As for *Panites*, he was so sensible of the Scorn and Reproach of his Fellow-Citizens, that he kill'd himself. The Body of *Leonidas* was found, and nail'd to a Cross; but his Memory was sufficiently eterniz'd by the Poets and Historians of those Times, who thought this might easily pass for a Victory on the *Grecians* side, as well in respect to the Action itself, wherein the *Persians* lost twenty thousand Men, as to the Influence it afterwards had on the Affairs of *Greece*. And in this respect, *Herodotus* says, *This Defeat of the Spartans was more glorious than any Victory that the Grecians afterwards obtain'd.*

*Xerxes*, tho' he had clear'd this Passage, was more inclin'd to try his Fortune at Sea, than to proceed immediately into the Country; especially when *Demeratus* told him, *That Sparta alone was able to send out near eight thousand more such Men, as those whose Valour he had so lately experienc'd.* The *Persian Fleet* was come up to *Sepias*, a Promontory of *Magnesia*, to act in Concert with the Land Forces; where by a Storm, which lasted three Days, they had lost four hundred Men of War, besides Transports and Ships of Burden,

Burden, with a proportionable Number of Men and Provisions. To repair which Loss, they order'd two hundred more to take a Compass and surprize the *Grecians* lying in the Straits of *Eubæa*; which was the same Stratagem the Army made use of at *Thermopylae*, and much about the same time, but with far different Success. For the *Grecians*, by the Advice of *Themistocles*, set sail by Night; and so by a Counter-surprise fell in with them, took and sunk thirty, and forc'd the rest to Sea, where by the Stress of Weather they were all sunk and stranded. Enrag'd at these Disappointments, they bore down the next Day with their whole Fleet, and drawing up in the Form of an Halfmoon, made an offer of Battle, which the *Grecians* readily accepted; and by the singular Valour of the *Atticians*, who were just re-inforc'd with three and fifty Sail, maintain'd the Conflict with equal Loss on both Sides, till Night forc'd them into Harbour. But they were so shatter'd in the Engagement, that they were forc'd to quit this Station in order to refit; and especially hearing that *Leonidas* was cut off at *Thermopylae*, they thought it necessary to retire further into *Greece*.

*The Sea-fight at Artemisium.*

Whereupon the *Persians* coming up with their Fleet to *Artemisium*, invaded *Eubæa*, and the Neighbouring Coasts. *Xerxes* at the same time march'd through *Doris* and *Phocis*, harassing the Country, and laying all waste before him; and

and leaving a Detachment to rife the Temple of *Apollo* at *Delpbi*, he encamp'd with the reft in *Bæotia*. When the *Athenians* found him advancing toward *Attica*, they would have engag'd their Confederates to make head againft him: But they declin'd it, as giving all for loft without the *Iſthmus*, and placing their only Confidence in the Defence of *Peloponneſus*. The *Athenians* thus abandon'd, put on Board their Wives and Children, with their moſt valuable Goods, and transported them to *Træzene*, *Ægina* and *Salamis*. After which, *Xerxes* invaded *Attica* <sup>Xerxes enters Athens.</sup> with Fire and Sword, and enter'd *Athens* three Months after his Paſſage into *Europe*. Thoſe few Inhabitants who were left, retir'd into the Citadel, where literally interpreting the Oracle of the *Wooden Walls*, they fortify'd it as well as they could with Boards and Palifadoes; and having ſtood the firſt Affault, were ſo confident of Succeſs, that, rather than yield to any Terms, they ſuffer'd themſelves to be put to the Sword, the Caſtle taken, and the Temple of *Minerva* in it to be burnt.

In this Exigency a Council was ſummon'd, wherein after every one had propos'd what his Fear and Intereſt ſuggeſted, it was reſolv'd to defend the *Iſthmus* by Sea and Land. The Deſign of which was chiefly to ſecure *Laconia*, and therefore eaſily aſſented to by *Eurybiades* the *Spartan*, who notwithstanding the ſignal Services of the *Athenians*, was appointed Ad-

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miral of the *Grecian Navy*. For as *Athens* was forc'd to yield to *Sparta* upon other Accounts, so neither did she think this a time to dispute the Command at Sea. The Land-Forces were commanded by *Cleombrotus* one of the *Spartan* Kings, and Brother of *Leonidas*. But when *Themistocles* found the *Grecian Fleet* withdrawing from *Salamis*, he oppos'd it with so much heat, that *Eurybiades* made an Offer of striking him. Strike if you will, says he, but bear what I say. He then told them, *Their chief Dependence must be upon their Shipping; that they were now in Possession of the narrow Seas, which would sufficiently perplex the Enemy; and that the improving that Advantage was of the last Consequence to their Affairs.* Against this it was objected, *That the Athenians were not upon an equal Foot with the Peloponnesians, whose Cities and Possessions were yet untouch'd*: This was insisted on more particularly by *Adimantus* chief of the *Corinthians*, who interrupted *Themistocles* in his Discourse, and went so far as to bid him hold his Tongue; telling him, *that they who had abandon'd their Lands to the Enemy, were not likely by their Advice to contribute towards the Preservation of the rest of Greece: That he ought not so much as to vote in the present Deliberations, which were of the last Importance to the Publick; and that till such time as the Affairs of Athens were re-establish'd, he should be asham'd to open his Mouth.* *Themistocles* was provok'd at this manner of up-

upbraiding him with the Calamities of his Country; and urging several things by way of Reproach and Invective against the *Corinthians* and their Captain, told them, *The Athenians had still a City left, and that the best in all Greece, consisting of two hundred Ships, which would serve either to re-instate them at home, or transport them to some flourishing Colony abroad.* Then addressing himself to *Eurybiades*, he gave him plainly to understand *that Athens was stronger at Sea than all the other Powers together, and that unless he would come into his Opinion, and bring over the rest of the Confederates to it, they the Athenians would quit the Alliance, and leave those who had deserted them first to the Fury of the Enemy.* The Fear of losing an Ally, who was the chief Support of the War, had the Effect he proposed: The Generals submitted to his Reasons, and were reconcil'd to each other; and the Result of the Council was, That they should prepare jointly to receive the *Persian* in the *Isthmus* by Land, and in the Straits of *Salamis* by Sea.

*Xerxes* in the mean while march'd down towards the Sea to act in Conjunction with his Fleet, which was come to *Pbalerus* the *Athenian* Port: And whilst he was concerting Measures with his Officers, the *Grecians* Hearts again fail'd them; and thinking it downright Madness to throw up one Country in hopes of recovering another that was intirely lost, they

weigh'd Anchor, in order to make directly to the *Isthmus*. *Themistocles* finding no Arguments would prevail, had recourse to Stratagem; and dispatch'd *Sicinus* a *Persian* Captive, and therefore the less suspected, to *Xerxes*, to tell him from the *Athenian* Admiral, who secretly espous'd his Interest, *That the Grecians were preparing for Flight; and that if he set upon them in this Confusion, before they were dispers'd, or join'd by their Land-Army, he might at once destroy their whole Fleet.* This Bait was easily swallow'd; and two hundred Ships were immediately sent out to block up the Straits and Passages till the rest of the Fleet could come up. It happen'd at this Juncture that *Aristides* the *Athenian*, with great Difficulty arriv'd at *Salamis* from *Ægina*, and brought Advice *that the Persians were at that time actually hemming in the Grecian Fleet, and that there was no way left but to fight it out.* The Reputation he had gain'd at *Marathon*, with his many other eminent Virtues, had cast too great a Shade upon the rising Glory of *Themistocles*. From hence sprung an Emulation betwixt them, which was daily increas'd by the Difference of their Tempers. For *Aristides* was grave, constant, sedate, mild, open, sincere and generous, and was particularly distinguish'd by the Name of *Just*; whereas the other wanted most of these good Qualities; but was subtle, enterprising and popular; and being naturally cut

cut out for transplanting his Rival, he form'd a Party which banish'd him by the *Ostracism*. And so great was the Power of Faction, and the Fear of Tyranny, at his Condemnation, that as they were giving in their Suffrages, an illiterate Fellow comes to *Aristides* with his Shell, and desires him to write *Aristides* upon it. He ask'd him *if Aristides had ever done him any Injury?* Not in the least, says he; neither do I know the Man; but I am concern'd to hear that he goes every where by the Name of Just. *Aristides* made him no Answer, but return'd his Shell with the Inscription of his own Name. And at his Departure from the City he only pray'd, *That the Time might never come when Athens should have cause to remember him.* After three Years Exile he was recall'd, for fear of his joining with the *Persian* upon the Invasion of *Attica*. But he was so far from it, that before the Decree was pass'd for his Return, he us'd all possible Means to encourage his Countrymen in the Defence of their Liberty; and afterwards gave an undoubted Proof of his Zeal, by contributing towards the Advancement of his greatest Enemy *Themistocles*, at least so far as it conduc'd to the common Security. This generous Conduct of his gain'd too much upon *Themistocles* to let any thing of Passion or Reserve interfere with the Publick: So that he let him into all his Designs and Projects, particularly this last of suffering

himself to be surrounded. After which they us'd their Joint-Authority with the other Commanders to engage them to stay: Yet did they not perfectly assent till a Gally of *Tenedos*, which had deserted from the *Persians*, came and confirm'd all that *Aristides* had told them. When finding no way to escape but what they must make through the Enemy, they prepar'd for the Fight.

They had increas'd their Fleet to three Hundred and eighty Sail, besides Tenders and other Vessels, tho' it yet bore no Proportion to that of the *Persians*; who having repair'd the Damages they sustain'd by Shipwreck and otherwise, were in as good a Condition as at the first. *Xerxes* from an Eminence on Shore, where he was plac'd with his Secretaries about him to write down the Particulars of the Action, gave the Signal to *Ariamenes* the *Persian* Admiral: And *Themistocles* having animated the *Grecians* for the Defence of all that was dear to them, loos'd from *Salamis* with great Resolution to meet him. The *Phœnicians*, in whom the Enemy confid'd most, were oppos'd to the *Athenians*; And their whole Fleet being drawn up distinctly according to their several Nations, kept their Stations very well in the open Seas; but when they began to enter the Straits, they gave the *Grecians* an Opportunity of exerting their Skill and Discipline, without being able to use the only Advantage they had in their

Num.

*The Fight  
at Salamis.*



Numbers. The Admiral who led the Van, fell in with great Fury, but was funk at the first Charge, which created such a Terror and Confusion that they immediately tack'd and made to Sea; but were fiercely pursu'd by the *Grecians*, who took some, and disabled others by brushing off their Oars and striking them through with the Beaks of their Vessels. To add to which, the *Ionians*, with whom *Themistocles* had been tampering before the Engagement, took this Occasion to draw off from the Line of Battle. In the other Wing the Contest was vigorous on both Sides, and for some time doubtful, till the *Phanicians* and *Cyprians* being driven on Shore, the *Athenians* made head upon the rest, who being not able to bear the Shock, retir'd in so great Disorder that they fell foul one of another. Those who kept the Sea were pursu'd and worsted by the *Athenians*, whilst the *Æginetans*, who had possess'd the Straits of *Attica*, intercepted others as they were making to the Port. By this means the *Grecians* obtain'd a great and glorious Victory, having funk above two hundred of the *Persian* Gallies besides what they took; and dispers'd their whole Fleet, with the loss of only forty of their own Ships.

They who behav'd best on the Side of the *Persians*, were *Theomestor* and *Phytaces*, two famous Captains of *Samos*, and *Artemisia* Queen of *Halicarnassus*, who had arm'd out five stout Ships.

Ships. This Princess had assisted at the Council of War, wherein this Engagement was resolv'd upon, and us'd very strong Arguments with *Xerxes* to dissuade him from it. She told him *how much superior the Grecians were in Naval Affairs; and how little he could depend on most of his Auxiliaries: But that if he would content himself to lie by with his Fleet upon the Coast, and pursue the Advantages he had already gain'd by Land, he would soon oblige the Grecians to retire, and disperse themselves into their respective Cities, and that they would thereby become an easy Prey to him.* *Xerxes* paid great regard to her Judgment, but as she was single in her Opinion it was carry'd against her for fighting at Sea. However, when it came to Action, she acquitted herself so well, and so much above the rest of the Confederates, that *Xerxes* said, *The Women fought like Men, and the Men like Women.* She was become so troublesome to the *Grecians* that they had set a Price upon her Head; and she was very near falling into their Hands, being so hard press'd by one of their Ships that she had no Prospect either of escaping or defending herself. In this Exigency she took a sudden Turn of Thought, to fall foul upon one of the Ships of her own Party, and attack'd it with such Fury that she sunk it. This happening in the heat of the Engagement, and when the Line was broke, so that it was not easy to distinguish between Friend and Foe,

Foe, the *Grecian* who had her in Chase, took her either for one of their own Fleet or one that had come over to them from the Enemy, and accordingly sheer'd off. The Ship that she sunk was commanded by *Damastibymus* Prince, of the *Calyndensians*, who having formerly disoblig'd her upon some Dispute between them in the *Hellespont*, she the rather made use of this Stratagem, as it serv'd both to procure her Safety, and at the same time to gratify her Revenge. *Herodotus*, as being himself of *Halicarnassus*, is thought by some to have rais'd the Merit of this Princess too high, and to have made her the Heroine of his History, to do Honour to his Country,

*Xerxes* astonish'd at this Overthrow, and not knowing what Measures to take, *Mardonius* accosted him in this Juncture, extenuated the Loss, and laid the whole Blame upon the Cowardise of the *Auxiliaries*. But wishal advis'd him to return speedily to his Kingdom, lest the Fame of his ill Success, which generally represents things worse than they are, should occasion any Commotions in his Absence. He engaged, *If he would leave him three hundred thousand choice Men, to subdue all Greece to his Glory; or if the Event prov'd otherwise, that he would take it to himself, without any Reflection upon his Master's Honour.* This Advice was very well receiv'd by *Xerxes*, who thinking he had done enough to vindicate his Honour in the

the taking of *Athens*, which was the chief Pretence of the War, prepar'd to march home at the Head of his Army, leaving Part of it with *Mardonius*, not so much out of hopes of reducing *Greece*, as for fear of being pursu'd. These were the Resolutions in a Council held just after the Fight : And the Night following the Fleet set Sail in great Confusion from *Phalerus* towards the *Hellepont* ; but was pursu'd by the *Grecians*, who losing Sight of them put in at *Andros* one of the *Cyclades* ; where it was propos'd to break down the Bridge of Ships and hinder the Passage of the Land Forces, in hopes of cutting them off, or forcing them to an advantageous Peace. But *Eurybiades*, or, according to *Plutarch*, *Aristides* justly fearing lest the Enemy, if a Retreat were deny'd him, might out of pure Necessity turn Valiant, and open a Way with Sword in Hand into their Country, since he could not have it upon easier Terms into his own, represented to them, *That they were like to have Enemies enough, without giving themselves the Trouble of increasing them; and that rather than take away that Bridge, they ought, if possible, to lay another for them.* *Themistocles* gave in to this Advice, and sent to *Xerxes* by the same Messenger he made use of at *Salamis*, and under the same Colour of Friendship, to let him know the *Grecians* Design of intercepting his Passage if he did not secure it by a speedy Retreat. He no sooner heard of it,

it, but leaving his Captains to take care of the Army, he hasten'd with a small Retinue to the Sea, which he reach'd forty-five Days after the Fight; and finding the Bridge shatter'd by the *Xerxes'* Winter-Storms, he secur'd himself in a private *Flight.* Boat. So strange and sudden was the Reverse of Fortune, that this haughty Monarch, whose Army was a Burden to the Earth, skulk'd about without the Attendance even of his Domesticks; and he, who cover'd the Ocean with his Fleet, and pretended to shackle the Winds and Waves, was tofs'd about in a poor Fishing-boat, till at last he arriv'd in *Asia*! The Army, which was order'd to follow him, being harass'd and fatigu'd with a continual March, Famine came to compleat their Misery. This brought a Pestilence along with it, as *Artabanus* had foretold, which made such a Ravage among them that they were attended by another Army of Beasts and Birds of Prey, which seiz'd them as they dropt; and those who surviv'd this Mortality, came to their King at *Sardis*.



~~THE HISTORY OF THE GREEKS~~

### C H A P. III.

*From the Retreat of Xerxes, to the  
Victories of Cimon at the River  
Eurymedon.*

*Containing the Space of 10 Years.*

**T**HIS being the Fate of these numerous Forces, Greece had some little Respite to provide for her further Security, which had hitherto been almost wholly owing to *Themistocles*. And this was testify'd in the most solemn manner at the Altar, where it being demanded of the Officers, *Who had deserv'd best of his Country?* Every one gave the first Vote for himself, and the second for *Themistocles*. It was further confirm'd by the *Lacedemonians* carrying him with them to *Sparta*; where giving the Rewards of Valour to *Eurybiades*, and of Wisdom and Conduct to *Themistocles*, they crown'd him with Olive, gave him the Precedency, presented him with a rich Chariot, and conducted him with three hundred Horse to the Confines of their Territories: Which extraordinary Marks of Esteem, and coming from so severe and jealous a State, made all Greece look upon him as the *common Deliverer*. When afterwards he appear'd at the *Olympick Games*,  
the

the Spectators were wholly taken up in extolling, gazing and pointing at him: Which touch'd him so sensibly, that he could not forbear discovering his Transport to his Friends, telling 'em, *That he that Day reaped the Fruit of all his Labours.* Not that this general Applause was without an Allay of Envy; particularly a *Seriphian* insinuated to him, *That he deriv'd his Honour more from the Greatness and Splendor of his Country, than from his personal Merit: You are in the right on't, says Themistocles; for I should never have been esteem'd if I had been of Seriphus, nor you tho' you had, been of Athens.* *Themistocles*, after the Flight of *Xerxes*, spent some time in levying Contributions of the Islands which had sided with the Enemy. He told the *Andrians*, *He came attended with two powerful Divinities, Persuasion and Necessity; to which they answer'd, They had two as powerful to oppose to them, Poverty and Impossibility: Whereupon he block'd 'em up for some time, but finding them too well fortify'd, was forc'd to retire.*

*Mardonius* in the mean while took up his Winter-Quarters in *Thessaly*, and the Confines of *Macedonia*; where having pick'd up fifty Thousand Men, besides the three hundred Thousand left him by *Xerxes*, he began to prosecute the War. But he had conceiv'd such a Dread of the *Athenians*, that he first endeavour'd to take them off with Promises not only of an honourable

nourable Peace, but of the Friendship of the King his Master; engaging further to *rebuild their Temples, to give 'em a vast Sum of Money, and constitute them Lords of all Greece.* The *Lacedæmonians*, alarm'd at these Offers, immediately dispatch'd their Ambassadors to *Athens*, to tell 'em, *They hop'd they had more Justice and Gratitude than to desert those who were engaged with the Persian purely upon their Account; at least that they had more Respect to the Memory of their Ancestors, than to prove instrumental in the enslaving those whom they had so gloriously rescu'd.* And lest they should urge the Necessity they were reduc'd to, as forcing them to a mean Compliance, *That they should send their Wives and Children to be maintain'd at Sparta.* The Answer the *Athenians* return'd was, *That they forgave their Enemies attempting to buy them off, since they had no Notion of any thing more valuable than Wealth; but could not so easily pardon the Lacedæmonians mercenary Thoughts of them, who seem'd to lay very little Stress upon what they had done and suffer'd in Defence of the common Liberty, when they propos'd to 'em to fight for Bread.* After which, *Aristides* bringing back the Ambassadors into the Assembly, charg'd 'em to tell the *Lacedæmonians* in short, *That all the Treasure in the World was not of that Value with the People of Athens, as the Liberty of Greece.* Then the *Athenians* directed their Discourse to *Alexander the Macedonian*



*mian* King, who came from *Mardonius*; and pointing to the Sun, *As long as that continues his Course, so long, said they, shall the Citizens of Athens wage War with the Persians for that Country which hath been wasted, and those Temples which have been prophan'd and burnt by them.* And when *Alexander* press'd them further, and would have interpos'd as a Mediator, they thank'd him for his good Intentions, but caution'd him as a Friend not to attempt any thing more of that kind, for fear of being insulted by the People.

*Mardonius*, upon this peremptory Answer, in-<sup>Mardonius enters Athens.</sup> vaded *Attica*, and enter'd the City ten Months after *Xerxes* had taken it, the Inhabitants having again convey'd themselves to *Salamis* and other neighbouring Places, till they could be join'd by their Confederates. Thither he sent to them a second Offer of the same Conditions; which they were so far from accepting, that they ston'd *Lycidas* a Senator, the same whom *Demosthenes* calls *Cyrillus*, for only moving that it might be taken into Consideration; and his Wife and Children met with the same Treatment from the Women. Then they sent pressing Instances to *Sparta* to hasten their Supplies: But the *Lacedæmonians* being intent upon their old Method of fortifying the *Isthmus*, put them off with dilatory Excuses, till at last the *Athenians* told 'em plainly, *The little Regard they express'd for the common Interest, would oblige them to follow their*

*Example, and provide for themselves; and that their Defence of the Isthmus would be very little Security to Peloponnesus in general, if they, who were Masters of the Seas about it, should join with the Enemy.* These Menaces had so good an Effect, that when they sent next to the *Ephori* to know their final Resolution, they told the Messengers that five thousand Men, attended with seven thousand of the *Helots*, were actually on their March towards *Attica*; and gave 'em leave to levy five thousand more in the *Spartan* Territories, and follow them. These Forces were join'd at the *Isthmus* by the other *Peloponnesians*; which *Mardonius* having notice of, thought fit to retire into *Bœotia*, as being a more Champaign Country. But before his Departure, finding the *Athenians* would hearken to no Terms, he set Fire to their City, and burnt and demolish'd every thing that had escap'd his Master's Fury. At *Elenus* the *Athenians* from *Salamis*, with the other *Grecians*, came in: And the whole Army being an hundred thousand (to which Number *Herodotus* adds ten thousand) under the Conduct of *Pausanias* the *Spartan*, the Son of *Cleombrotus*, and Protector during the Minority of *Plistarchus* the Son of *Leonidas*, follow'd *Mardonius* into *Bœotia*; whose Forces lying extended along the Banks of the River *Asopus*, the *Grecians* encamp'd over-against them at the Foot of Mount *Cytheron*. When they were drawing up their Army in order of Battle, the *Tegeans* rais'd a Dispute with the

the *Athenians* upon the point of Precedency. They made no difficulty of allowing the *Spartans* the Command of the Right Wing, as they had constantly had it ; but they insisted on the Left for themselves, alledging that what they and their Ancestors had done for the common Cause had given them a just Title to it. The *Athenians* were so incens'd at the starting this Pretension, that they began to mutiny. Whereupon *Aristides* interpos'd in their Behalf; and addressing himself to the *Spartans*, and the rest of the Confederates, he said, *It is not now a time to dispute the Merit of those Services which the Thebans have so magnified. We shall content ourselves with telling you, That it is not the Post which gives Courage, or takes it away; and that whatever Post you shall assign us, we will maintain it, and do our Duty. We are come hither not to contend with our Friends, but to fight with our Enemies; not to boast of our Ancestors, but to imitate them. This Battle will distinguish the particular Merit of each City, each Commander, and each private Soldier.* This Speech determin'd the Council of War in favour of the *Athenians*, who thereupon had the Command of the Left Wing allotted to them.

This Difficulty being got over, there happen'd another unlucky Circumstance in the *Athenian* Camp; where several of the best and richest Families who had wasted their Fortunes in the War, and lost all their Credit and Authority in

the City, enter'd into a Conspiracy to subvert the Government ; or, if they should not succeed that way, to betray their Country to the *Persians*. *Aristides* got notice of their Consultations; and their Numbers increasing, he found it necessary to make a publick Enquiry into the Affair ; and yet considering the present critical Conjunction, he was afraid of going too far. Wherefore he caus'd only eight of them to be apprehended, and two of those eight, as being more deeply concerned, to be proceeded against; and yet these two were suffer'd to make their Escape during the Prosecution ; which was thought to have been done with the Privity of *Aristides* ; and the rather because he discharg'd the rest as if nothing had been found against them. He only told them, *that the Battle would be the Tribunal where they might justify themselves, and make it appear that they had never enter'd into any Counsels but what were just and useful to their Country.* By this prudent Act of Dissimulation, he gave them an Opportunity of repenting, and prevented a general Commotion among the Troops. *He thought it advisable, says Plutarch, to sacrifice Justice, in some measure, to the publick Good.*

The *Grecians* were advantageously posted in strong and rocky Places, all but three thousand *Megareans*, who lying more expos'd in the Plains, *Mardonius* sent a great Detachment of Horse against them, which broke in and gall'd them

so

on all sides, that they were forc'd to send to *Pausanias* to relieve them. Which not being readily undertaken, *Aristides*, who commanded the *Atbenian* Troops, sent three hundred of his Men to their Assistance. They stood the Charge with great Bravery, and closing with the Enemy, kill'd *Masiftius* General of the *Persian* Horse: <sup>Masiftius</sup>  
Upon which greater Numbers engag'd on both <sup>General of</sup>  
Sides, till the *Grecians*, without any considerable <sup>the Persian</sup> ~~Horfe kill'd~~  
Loss, carry'd off the Body in Triumph.

After this *Pausanias* remov'd his Camp and advanc'd to *Platea*; where the two Armies fac'd each other, with only a slight Skirmish now and then with the *Persian* Horse, for eleven Days together. The Reason of which was that it had been foretold to both Parties, *That they should be victorious if they stood only upon the defensive Part*. But *Mardonius* finding his Provisions fail, resolv'd to attack 'em the next Morning: Which *Pausanias* being inform'd of, drew up his Army, placing the *Atbenians* in the Right Wing opposite to the *Persians*, as being better acquainted with their way of fighting, and flush'd with their late Victories, and his *Spartans* in the Left, opposite to the *Grecians* who sided with the Enemy. Which *Mardonius* perceiving, immediately march'd over his *Persians* to the Right; and when *Pausanias* wheeling about again, rang'd himself as at the first, the other, still to prevent him, did the like: So that by changing the Order, of the Battle, the Day pass'd

without Action. The *Grecians* supposing things would not presently be brought to an Issue, thought it necessary to remove their Camp for the Convenience of Water; but breaking up in the Night were pretty much dispers'd. In the Morning *Mardonius*, imputing their Disorder to Flight and Cowardise, pursu'd them with his whole Army, and with great Violence charg'd their Rear, consisting chiefly of the *Lacedæmonians*, who had been detain'd too long through the Obstinacy of one of their own Regiments, which insisted upon it, as not agreeable to the *Spartan* Discipline, to desert their Post. However they, collecting themselves into the order of a *Pbalanz*, receiv'd the Enemy with their wonted Bravery, and, by the Assistance of the *Tegeans*, maintain'd their Ground with great Slaughter of the Enemy; amongst whom *Mardonius* himself was kill'd by *Amnestus* a *Spartan*. The other *Grecian* Troops, as soon as they took the Alarm, came up in scatter'd Companies to their Relief, and made an intire Rout of it; inso-much that *Artabazus*, who commanded a Body of forty thousand *Persians*, fled with them towards the *Hellefpont*, and the rest fortify'd themselves in their Camp with Wooden Ramparts.

*The Battle  
of Plataea.*  
A. M.  
3525.  
Olym. 75.  
2.

*Mardonius  
kill'd.*

The *Athenians*, who were making all the haste they could to have a Share in this Action, were intercepted by five thousand of the *Thebans* and *Thessalians*, who sided with the *Persians*. However, after an hot Dispute, they de-

defeated them, and made their way to the *Lacedæmonians*, who were now assaulting the *Persians* Camp. But being not so well skill'd in that part of the War, the *Athenians* undertook to storm it; and having made a considerable Breach the whole Army enter'd, and bearing down all before 'em, made such an incredible Havock, that above a hundred thousand *Persians* were put to the Sword. For *Pausanias*, in regard of their Numbers, not thinking it safe to take any Prisoners, would give no Quarter. It is said that of the three hundred thousand *Persians* who came into the Field, there escap'd scarce three thousand besides the forty thousand who fled: And this Victory was obtain'd with so little Loss on the *Grecians* Side, that we may very well take up with the highest Account of it, since it mentions but ten thousand Men, and serves rather to fix the Probability of the Action in general, than to derogate from the Honour of it. The Battle being over, the *Grecians* bury'd their dead; to which time *Diodorus* refers the Original of Funeral Games and Orations. But of the first of these Institutions we have several Instances in the Heroes before, and at the time of the *Trojan* War, it being this to which they ow'd a great part of their Divinity: And the latter is by some ascrib'd to *Solon* as a part of his Constitution; which from thence obtain'd all over *Greece*; it being thought not only an Encouragement to the

the Living, but also a great Accession to the Happiness of the Dead, to have their Exploits enumerated by a public Orator: And therefore to perpetuate the Memory of such as had done very eminent Service for their Country, the *Panegyric* was constantly repeated upon an Anniversary Day. The Games which were instituted upon this Occasion, were to be celebrated every fifth Year, and they were call'd *Games of Liberty*. There were likewise annual Sacrifices to be offer'd to *Jupiter Liberator*; for which purpose all the Cities of *Greece* were to send their respective Deputies to *Platea*; and the Inhabitants of that City were to have the more immediate Care of these Solemnities, in regard the Battle was fought in their Territories. In the Camp they found a prodigious Quantity of Treasure; the Division of which, *Justin* says, first infected *Greece* with the Luxury of Riches. Out of this Spoil there were allotted to the *Platæans* fourscore Talents, besides the several extraordinary Privileges granted to them on account of their Zeal and Service on this occasion. They erected a Temple to *Minerva* with the Money, and adorn'd it with very curious Paintings, which six hundred Years after, in *Plutarch's* time, were said to have been as fresh as when they were first drawn. From hence they march'd to *Thebes*; where after some little Opposition, the Heads of the Revolt to the *Persian*, were deliver'd up to them and put to Death.

To



TO crown this Success in *Beotia* we must <sup>Affairs</sup> take a View of the Affairs at Sea. The greatest <sup>at Sea.</sup> part of the *Persian* Fleet, after the Defeat at *Salamis*, winter'd at *Cumæ*; and in the Spring mov'd to *Samos*, both to guard and to awe the Coasts of *Asia*. The *Grecians* in the mean while were refitting their Ships at *Ægina*; whither the *Cbians* sent to them to free them from the *Persian* Tyranny, and got them as far as *Delos*. While they staid here to learn what Posture the Enemy was in, they were again solicited by the *Samians* to take this Opportunity of putting out to Sea, whilst the *Ionians* in general were well affected to them, and would certainly come in when they saw a Power likely to protect them. They immediately set Sail under the Conduct of *Leutycbides* the *Spartan* Admiral, and *Xantbippus* the *Atbenian*: At whose Approach the *Persians* made to Land; and at *Mycale*, a Promontory of *Ionia*, hal'd their Gallies on Shore, shutting 'em up with a Wall and a deep Trench; and on the other side they were cover'd by sixty thousand Foot, who were left under the Command of *Tigranes*, to secure the Continent. *Leutycbides* made to Shore after them, and, by a public Crier, animated the *Ionians* to revolt: After which he landed his Forces, and prepar'd the next Day to fight them. The *Persians* finding the *Ionians* wavering, disarm'd the *Samians*, sent the *Milesians* to defend the Passages about *Mycale*, and so dispers'd the rest

*The Fight  
at Mycale.*

*Tigranes  
the Persian  
General  
kill'd.*

rest that they should be in a manner oblig'd to fight in Conjunction with the other Troops. The *Grecians* drew up their Army in two Bodies; the one consisting chiefly of *Athenians* and *Corinthians*, kept the Plain, whilst the other of *Lacedemonians*, march'd over Hills and Precipices to gain the highest Ground. The Battle being join'd, great Courage and Resolution was shew'd on both Sides; and the Fortune of the Day continu'd a great while doubtful, till the *Samians* and *Milesians* took their Opportunity of deserting from the *Persians*, and were follow'd by most of the *Asiatic Grecians*. The *Persians* still endeavour'd to keep the Field, but were soon routed, and pursu'd with great Slaughter to their very Tents. The *Athenian* Body had made themselves Masters of the Field before the *Lacedemonians* could come up to their Assistance: So that all the Share these latter had in the Action, was to kill and disperse some of the *Persian* Troops which were making a pretty regular Retreat. There fell forty thousand of the *Persians* with *Tigranes* their General: And as they fought with a Desire to retrieve the Honour of their Arms, the *Grecians* lost a greater Proportion in this, than in any other of the Engagements. This Battle was fought on the Evening of the same Day with that at *Plataea*; the News of which Victory arriving in the Camp at *Mycale* before the Engagement, contributed in a great measure towards the Success of it:

So

So that it is not material to enquire whether *Leutychides* had actually Intelligence from *Platæa*, or (which is most probable from the vast Distance) that he invented it as a Stratagem to make his Soldiers charge with the greater Vigour and Alacrity; since the bare Rumour had this good Effect, and since the thing itself happen'd accordingly.

To compleat this Victory, the *Grecians* burnt the *Persian* Ships in the Haven, and return'd with great Spoil to *Samos*; where they receiv'd the *Ionians* and *Æolians* as their Confederates. And as they had once more freed them from the *Persian* Yoke, they fell into a Debate about transplanting them into *Europe*, since otherwise they would be continually alarm'd, and they could not be ready upon all Occasions to relieve them. But the *Atbenians*, who pretended the greatest Right to dispose of them, as being their Founders, oppos'd it; and promising to protect them in the Defence of their Liberty, they were continu'd in *Asia*. After which the *Lacedæmonians* return'd home, leaving the *Atbenians* to recover the *Chersonese* of *Thrace*. Accordingly they lay before *Sestos*, whither some of the *Persians* had retir'd, till having starv'd them, they took the Town and hang'd the Governor. It being late in the Year they winter'd here; and in the Spring return'd with their Navy to *Atbens*.

Thus

Thus were the *Grecians* at last freed from the Invasion of an Army no less ridiculous in Success than terrible in Appearance, having, like Locusts, overwhelm'd their Country for two Years together. It was a Deliverance rather to be wish'd than hop'd for; since it could not have been effected but by so many signal Overthrows both by Sea and Land, in any one of which a Miscarriage must have prov'd fatal to all *Greece*. To account for this prodigious Success, we are to consider how the Diffolution of the Regal Power had at this time fir'd the *Grecians* with the Thoughts of Liberty; so that it produc'd even in the private Soldiers such uncommon Notions of Honour and Resolution, that they were harden'd beyond a Sense of their Danger. And this personal Bravery was so well directed by the Conduct and Vigilance of their Officers, that they generally fought to Advantage, by drawing the *Persians* into Straits and Passes so that they could not enlarge their Front, nor consequently make use of their Numbers. To add to which, there was a profess'd Emulation among the several States of *Greece*; which, tho' it created some little Difficulties in adjusting the Business of Precedency and Command, had certainly a good Effect as to the Publick when it came to Action, and had no Object to vent itself upon but the common Enemy. Yet would not all these concurring Circumstances have prevail'd  
in

in so eminent a Degree, if they had not had to do with an Enemy who was just their Reverse, a slavish confus'd Multitude, and wrap'd up in a slothful Security. The *Persians* had before this Expedition lost all the Captains of their Founder *Cyrus*; and with them that Spirit and Discipline which had given them the Promise of a glorious as well as an extensive Empire. So that they had nothing to trust to but their Numbers; and even this was so far from proving an Advantage, that they were a dead Weight and a Burden to themselves, and serv'd rather to increase the Fury of the Enemy than to defeat it.

As for *Xerxes*, he lay at *Sardis* expecting the Event of these Battles, till finding it impossible to retrieve such a long Train of Miscarriages, he retir'd farther into his Country. Where we will leave him abandon'd to a Course of Riot and Luxury, without expatiating upon those black Scenes of Incest, Sacrilege and Murder, which made the latter Part of his Reign as notoriously scandalous at home, as the first Part of it had been trifling abroad; and which at last occasion'd his being murder'd by his own Subjects. It is sufficient here to observe, that whatever successful Attempts were made by the *Persians* in other Parts, neither *Xerxes*, nor his Successors did ever after this Defeat at *Mycale*, act offensively against *Greece*. And tho' the *Persian* Kingdom continu'd many Years after,

after, and with the Character of the greatest Empire of the known World, her Greatness consisted rather in Riches and Extent of Territory, than any memorable Atchievements : And the Continuance of it was owing to nothing more than those intestine Broils among the *Grecians*, which we shall find by the Prosecution of their Story, diverted them from pushing their Conquests in *Asia*.

*The Conduct  
of Themis-  
tocles in re-  
building the  
Walls of  
Athens.*

The *Athenians* with their Families being return'd, employ'd their Share of the Booty in rebuilding their City. But as their Walls took in a much larger Compass than before, this gave some Umbrage to the *Lacedaemonians*, who truly enough concluded, *That if this City, when it lay in Ruins, could do such Wonders, what would it not aspire to when it was so fortify'd?* Wherefore they dispatch'd Ambassadors to dissuade them from carrying on these Works, because they would only serve as Garrisons for the Enemy, and be the Seat of a future War. This put a Stop to their Proceedings for the present, till *Themistocles* encourag'd them to go on, whilst he undertook to answer it at *Sparta*. Where having gain'd what time he could before he had Audience, the *Lacedaemonians* began to suspect his Design, and renew'd their Remonstrances. He advis'd them not to take up with every idle Report, but to send again and see how little the Works were advanc'd. Thus having amus'd them till the Walls were finish'd, he

he address'd himself to the *Ephori*, telling 'em plainly, *That Athens was now in a Condition to keep out any Enemy, whether Foreign or Domestic; that in what the Athenians had done, both the Law of Nations, and the public Interest of Greece would sufficiently bear them out: In short, that they were best able to judge of their own Affairs, without the Direction or Control of any other State; adding farther, That it was done by his Advice, and that whatever Injury they offer'd to him they must expect it would be return'd upon their own Ambassadors, who were detain'd at Athens.* These Declarations carry'd too much Weight and Truth with them, to be easily refuted: So that the *Lacedemonians* finding they could not help themselves stifled their Resentment, and dismiss'd *Themistocles*. He was receiv'd at *Athens* with as much Joy as if he had actually triumph'd over *Sparta*: And indeed this was the first considerable Step towards throwing off that Superiority which she had hitherto exacted. After this he set himself to enlarging and strengthening the Port *Piræus*, omitting nothing either by Sea or Land that might serve not only to secure the *Athenians* from abroad, but also to fix their Dominion at home. As an Expedient for this latter, he propos'd burning the *Lacedemonian* Fleet as it lay in Harbour; but this was such a manifest Piece of Injustice that he could not make *Aristides* consent to it.

The

A. M. The *Persians* having still some footing in  
 3527. *Europe* and the *Lesser Asia*, thirty *Athenian* Gal-  
 Olym. 75. lies were mann'd out under the Conduct of  
 4. *Aristides*, and twenty *Lacedæmonian* under *Pausa-  
 nias*. They set sail to *Cyprus*, where they freed  
 several Towns which the *Persians* had garrison'd;  
 from whence they re-imbark'd, and took *By-  
 zantium*. *Pausanias*, who was naturally haughty  
 and imperious, and sufficiently elevated with the  
 Business of *Plataea*, presum'd yet farther upon  
 the Success of this Expedition. He became  
 every Day more difficult of Access, and requir'd  
 more extraordinary Marks of Honour and Re-  
 spect to be paid him: He treated not only his  
 own Officers, but all the Confederates in general,  
 with such Severity, Disdain and Arrogance, that  
 they wanted a fit Opportunity to get rid of him;  
 and such a one now offer'd upon a traiterous Cor-  
 respondence, that he was carrying on in *Persia*.  
 In order to ingratiate himself at that Court, he  
 had suffer'd some *Persian* Noblemen, whom he  
 had taken in the *Hellepont*, to make their Escape  
 by Night, and had sent a Letter by them to  
*Xerxes*, wherein he offer'd to deliver up *Sparta*  
 and all *Greece* to him; on Condition he would  
 give him his Daughter in Marriage. *Xerxes* rea-  
 dily hearken'd to the Proposal, and referr'd him  
 to *Artabazus*, whom he appointed Governor of  
 the Sea-Coasts in *Asia Minor*, to concert Mea-  
 sures with him for putting it in Execution. He  
 also furnish'd him with a large Sum of Money to  
 be



be distributed among such of the *Grecians* as would join in the Conspiracy. But this Design was discover'd at *Sparta*, and *Pausanias* was tried for it: However the Proofs not being so clear against him as the *Spartan* Laws requir'd, he was acquitted. But his Command was taken from him: which, with the Odium he had contracted to himself, and the ill Impressions he had given of the *Spartan* Dominion, became the Means of transferring the Command at Sea to the *Athenians*. The *Ionians*, who were always best affected to them, immediately put themselves under their Protection, and all the Cities without the *Isthmus* soon follow'd their Example, being easily gain'd upon by *Aristides* and *Cimon*, who were as remarkable for their Modesty, Candour and Humanity, as *Pausanias* was for his Pride and Insolence. The *Spartans* were asham'd of his Behaviour, and sent another to succeed him in the *Hellepont*, but it was too late; the Confederates had declared themselves on the other side, and would not admit him.

The *Spartans* could not but fancy themselves over-reach'd, and trick'd out of their Command at Sea; and tho' they made no public Noise about it, yet it came to be debated among themselves, whether they should not declare War against *Athens*. This reviv'd an old Prophecy of the Oracle, which had bid them *Beware of having but half an Empire*, and which they could not interpret otherwise than in Re-

lation to their present Circumstances. So that the general Opinion was for War; but *Themistocles* a Senator dissuaded it, urging among other Reasons, *that it did not so properly belong to the Spartans to trouble themselves about Sea-Affairs.* The Truth is, they were not in a Condition at present to contest it; and therefore they waved the Thoughts of this War to join in the Prosecution of that in *Asia*.

The Charge of the War being thus devolv'd upon the *Athenians*, they had a Liberty given them to rate all the Cities in such a Proportion of Ships and Money, as they thought necessary for the Support of it. Whatever Contributions had hitherto been paid in the Confederate Wars, this was the first regular Tax we find mention'd in *Greece*. It being appointed by *Aristides*, amounted to four hundred and sixty Talents, and was deposited at *Delos* as the public Treasury. It was collected at first with so much Ease and Chearfulness, and manag'd with such Integrity, that upon this Account it was call'd, *The happy Time of Greece*, and compar'd to the *Age of Saturn*. This mighty Privilege, with which the *Athenians* were invested, chiefly upon the Opinion of *Aristides's* Justice, was a Confirmation of that Power they had so lately wrested from the *Spartans*. But as it was the Beginning of their Greatness in this Age, so it was of their Ruin in the next, when the Tribute came to be rais'd, first to six hundred Talents, and

*The first  
Tax in  
Greece.*

and soon after to one thousand three hundred, and the Money misapply'd.

The General Commander in this War was *The Rise Cimon* the Son of *Miltiades*. I mention'd the of *Cimon*.

Piety of this young Man in taking his Father's Fine upon him: And as he was insolvent, it happen'd, that *Callias* a rich Citizen offer'd to marry his Half-sister *Elpinice*, and discharge it. Whether he did not think it a Match suitable to her Quality, or that he was married to her himself, (which was allowable by *Solon's* Laws) he did not comply with the Proposal; but she declaring, *She would not suffer any of Miltiades's Children to die in Prison*, accepted it. Being thus set at Liberty, he did good Service in the Army; and was soon taken notice of, as one who acted with the Courage of his Father, and the Judgment of *Themistocles*, and with more Openness and Sincerity than either. *Aristides*, who easily discover'd this honest *Genius* in him, took care to cultivate it, and set him up as a Counter-poise to the Craft and Ambition of *Themistocles*: By which means he was advanc'd to the highest Employments both at home and abroad. And being now strengthen'd by an Accession of the Allies, he went into *Thrace*, His Expedition to *Thrace* where he took *Eion*, a Town situate upon the River *Strymon*, and chastis'd the bordering *Thracians*, who had supply'd it with Provisions. *Islands.* But the Behaviour of *Butes* the *Persian* Governor of this Town, is beyond any thing that is

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recorded

recorded of his Countrymen during this War. For finding it impossible to hold out any longer, he threw all his Treasure into the River, and then erected a Funeral Pile, whereon he burnt himself, and his whole Family. From thence *Cimon* made to the Island *Scyrus*, inhabited by some of the *Pelasgi* and *Dolopes*, a Nest of Pirates; and by expelling them, open'd the Trade of the *Ægean* Sea: And all these Places were planted with *Athenian* Colonies. His next Attempt was upon the *Carystians* of *Eubœa*, whom he brought over upon Terms; he afterwards reduc'd *Naxos*, which had revolted, and depriv'd the Inhabitants of their Liberty. Which was the first Instance of the *Athenians* exerting their Power in that kind beyond the Laws of the Confederacy; tho' it was afterwards frequently practis'd, as the other Cities revolted, to which they were very inclinable upon account of the Tribute which the *Athenians* began to exact with so much Rigour, as made the thing burdensom, and their Government odious.

*Pausanias* was so far from giving over his ambitious Views, that immediately upon his being acquitted at *Sparta*, he return'd to the Sea-Coasts without any Authority from the State, and, during these Transactions of *Cimon*, continu'd to carry on his Correspondence with *Artabazus*. But his Designs were still travers'd by the *Athenian* Generals, who forc'd him from that Neighbourhood. At length the *Ephori* summon'd him to  
appear

appear at *Sparta* on pain of being declar'd a Traitor to his Country. He obey'd their Or-<sup>Pausanias</sup>der, and underwent a second Trial: And among <sup>try'd again.</sup> other strong Circumstances against him, it was alledg'd, that he had excited the *Helots* to rebel. But whether his Practices were not yet fully detected, or whether his Judges were tender in the Prosecution of one of the Royal Blood, and who was Guardian to the young King, or whether they had regard to his past Services, he was again discharg'd. But soon afterwards a full Discovery was made by one of his Slaves, whom he had sent to *Artabazus* with a Letter for *Xerxes*. It was agreed between *Pausanias* and this Governor, that, to prevent any Discovery, the Couriers, who pass'd from one to the other, shou'd be made away with as soon as they had deliver'd their Dispatches. The Slave observing, that none of those who had been sent from *Sparta*, ever return'd back, suspected there was something wrong in it, and open'd the Letter he was charg'd with; by which it appear'd, that he was to be murder'd in the same manner as those who went before him. This Letter he deliver'd to the *Ephori*, who were now convinc'd that *Pausanias* was guilty; but for a more thorough Confirmation, they were willing to have it from his own Mouth. For this purpose they contriv'd, that the Slave should take Sanctuary in the *Temple of Neptune*, as for Safety and Protection, and under a Pre-

tence of supplicating the Deity for the Infidelity he had committed. *Pausanias*, according to their Expectation, was immediately alarm'd, and repair'd to the Temple, to know how the matter stood; and the *Ephori*, with some other Attendants, had conceal'd themselves in a little inner Room, where they could hear what pass'd. The Slave expostulated with his Master upon the Subject of the Letter, which he acknowledg'd he had open'd, and then reproach'd him with his Cruelty, which *Pausanias* could not deny; but he endeavour'd to pacify him, and promis'd him a great Reward to keep the Secret. The Confession of *Pausanias's* Guilt being by this means drawn from him, the *Ephori* were preparing to proceed against him: But he having some intimation of it, took Sanctuary in the Temple of *Minerva*; where the Door being made up, (to which end his Mother is said to have brought the first Stone) he was starv'd to Death; and, by this Treason to his Country forfeited the Glory of having rescu'd it by one of the most signal Victories that ever was obtain'd in *Greece*.

*Themistocles his Death.*

His Fate drew along with it that of *Themistocles*; who had some time before been banish'd by the *Ostracism*, and liv'd in great Esteem at *Argos*. There were found among *Pausanias's* Papers some Hints of a Correspondence carry'd on between these two, for promoting the Affairs of the *Persian*: And if he were engag'd in that Interest,

Interest, his Country's Ingratitude might very well prompt him to it. But whatever the matter of Fact was, it was sufficiently aggravated by the Envy and Malice of the *Lacedæmonians*, who having receiv'd from him the severest Checks to their Ambition, never left off, 'till they got him accus'd and condemn'd, without being heard. Which he having notice of, fled first to *Corcyra*, then to *Epirus*; where being pursu'd, he got with much difficulty into *Asia*, and apply'd himself to *Xerxes*. *Thucydides* says, contrary to the general Opinion, that his Son *Artaxerxes* was then upon the Throne: But perhaps he was only declar'd Heir to the Crown, it being customary among the *Persian* Kings to name their Successor some time before they dy'd, as we find *Darius* did before his Expedition; at least this is the most plausible way of reconciling the Difference. Being admitted to the King, he told him, *He was Themistocles the Athenian, who had been banished his Country, and had now fled to him for Protection. That he had indeed brought many Calamities on the Persians; but that he had likewise done them many Services by the good Advice he had several times given them; and that he was now in a Capacity of serving them more effectually. My Life, said he, is in your Power; you may dispose of it as you think fit; by saving it, you will oblige one who asks it of you; by taking it away, you will destroy the greatest Enemy to Greece.* The King was surpris'd

pris'd at his intrepid Behaviour, and at present made him no answer: But after having dismiss'd him, he spoke of him to his Friends as a Treasure that he had obtain'd; and was so overjoy'd at his Arrival, that at Night he started out of his Sleep, and cried out thrice, *I have got Themistocles the Athenian.* The next Morning he sent for him; and, instead of sacrificing him to his Revenge, as was generally expected, he made him a Present of two hundred Talents, which was the Price he had set upon his Head for the taking him, and desir'd of him an account of the Affairs of *Greece*. He afterwards took him into his Parties of Pleasure, and shew'd him such further uncommon Marks of Friendship and Esteem, that the other Favourites grew jealous of him. But the King's View was by his means to make another more successful Attempt upon *Greece*. He gave him three Cities to maintain him; so that having liv'd some time in great Splendor, he dy'd, as some say, a natural Death at *Magnesia*. But that which is recorded most to his Glory, is, that having engag'd the *Persian* not to undertake the War against *Greece* without him, he poison'd himself, as being the most honourable means of acquitting himself both to *Xerxes*, and his Country. Whatever his Intentions were, his Actions were free from Guilt to the last: So that his residing in an Enemy's Country, seems to have been rather of Necessity, than Choice, being first abandon'd, and then



then persecuted by the Insolence and Jealousy of an ungrateful People; who could not at the same time but acknowledge him for the greatest Man in *Greece*, and one born for its Preservation. Some say, that at his first setting out in the World, he led such an idle profligate Life, that his Father disinherited him: Which agrees with a Saying of his own, *That ragged Colts, when they come to be taught, make the best Horses.* But others affirm, that he applied himself very early to Business, and with great Attention; and that his Father, to discourage him from meddling with State Affairs, took him to the Seaside, and shew'd him the old Gallies, as they lay neglected and unrepair'd upon the Shore, comparing them to the chief Commanders, who were discharg'd by the People, when they had no further occasion for them. But this did not check his Ambition; he soon grew into a general repute, and by his Parts and Industry became so eminent, that nothing of moment was done without him. He was a good Pleader, and knew how to make his court to the People; but it was more by his natural Cunning, than his manner of Address. For in his general Deportment he was rough and unpolish'd; and being one Day upbraided with it, he said, *He must own, he could not play upon the Lute, but that, in lieu of it, he could raise a great City out of a small one.* He was a good Judge in private Controversies between Man and Man; but  
in

*And Character.*

in Points of Interest, which concern'd either himself or the Public, he was often partial and unjust. Such was the Case of his rebuilding the Walls of *Athens*: For however justifiable the thing might be in itself; yet his manner of doing it, with regard to the *Spartans*, was fraudulent and tricking. Wherefore this piece of Management against those, who had acted in Friendship and Alliance with the *Athenians* for their mutual Preservation, is not to be consider'd in the same light with his other Stratagems against the *Persians*, who were the declared Enemies of *Greece*. But herein he went upon a false Maxim, which prevail'd too generally among the *Grecians*, that all ways of increasing the Power of their Country, were allowable, and that the end would sufficiently justify the means. The *Spartans* themselves were as blameable as others in this respect; however they never forgave this Act of Treachery in *Themistocles*: In the end it prov'd his ruin, and laid the Seeds of that long and fatal Discord, which afterwards broke out between the two Republicks. But whatever cause of Resentment the *Spartans* had against him, he had not deserv'd the Treatment he met with from his Fellow-Citizens, who reap'd the Fruit of all his Labours, and for whom he had succeeded in every thing he undertook. He was, after *Miltiades*, the chief Instrument of their Deliverance: And every part of his Conduct in that great Work

Work deserves Praise. The first necessary Step towards it, was to suppress that Spirit of Emulation and Rivalship among the several States of *Greece*, which, at the time of the *Persian Descent*, was breaking out into a Flame: But it was happily prevented by *Themistocles*, who compos'd their Differences, and united most of them against the common Enemy. And even after this Union, he found it very difficult to adjust the Point of Command, which he had Pride enough to insist on for himself, and Zeal enough for the Honour of his Fellow-Citizens, who had a natural Right to the Command at Sea: But he wav'd all Pretensions of this kind, and submitted to every thing for the public Good. This is what *Plutarch* extols in him as true Greatness of Mind; and makes a just Remark upon it, *That he could never have overcome his Enemies by his Courage, if he had not first got the better of his Allies by his Condescension.* He was the first who gave the *Athenians* a right Notion of Sea-Affairs, and laid the Foundation of all their Naval Glory. He confirm'd to them that Superiority of Command at Sea, which had lately devolv'd to them by the Insolence of *Pausanias*, and put them in the way of obtaining the Sovereignty of *Greece*. He establish'd it as a Maxim, *That their present and future Safety depended intirely on their Shipping.* They were not presently convinc'd of this Truth; and therefore reproach'd him with *taking from them the*

*the Spear and the Shield, and binding them to the Bank and the Oar.* But they afterwards found the good Effects of it; and so long as they pursu'd his Plan, and continu'd to act as a Maritime Power, they were a great flourishing People. He had a very discerning Genius, and great Sagacity and Foresight: *Plutarch* says, *He had an Eye which could penetrate even into the Womb of Events.* And as no body saw things at a greater distance; so no body pass'd a truer and quicker Judgment of them in Cases of present Difficulty. He was saying one Day, *That the greatest Talent a General could possess, was, to foresee the Designs of an Enemy: Yes,* says *Aristides, That is very necessary; but it is likewise necessary to have clean Hands, and to be above any Views of Interest.* *Themistocles* was so stung with this Reply, that when afterwards he heard *Aristides* extoll'd for the Care he took of the Public Mony, he made a Jest of it, and said, *His Merit in this Respect, was of the same kind with that of a strong Box.* As he had great natural Advantages, so he had a way of setting them off with a great deal of Artifice. He us'd Religion only as a Cloke; tho' it was generally for good Purposes, and for the Service of the Public. This was the use he made of Signs and Prodigies, Dreams, Omens, Oracles and other Divine Revelations, which he knew how to interpret, according to the Spirit he was to raise in the Minds of the People. He had  
other

other little Arts of gaining upon them. He made it his Business to know every Citizen personally, and would salute them by their Names. When he was Admiral, he would put off all his Business to the Day he was to sail, in order to raise an Opinion of his Capacity and Dispatch: And so through the whole course of his Politics, there was something more fine and intricate, than *Greece* had hitherto been acquainted with. But it must be confessed, that there was in most of his best Actions more Craft and Subtilty, than was suitable to the Character either of his Bravery in the Field, or of his Wisdom in the Senate.

It was also about this time that *Aristides* dy'd: *Aristides*  
Of whose Integrity and Contempt of Riches <sup>his Death,</sup>  
there cannot be a clearer Evidence, than that <sup>and Cha-</sup> *rafter*.

he, who had been Treasurer of *Greece*, did not leave enough to bury him. When he was grown old, and had quitted the Administration, he spent the rest of his Life in instructing and training up young Men as a Nursery for the State, instilling into them Principles of Honour and Justice, and inspiring them with a Zeal and Love for their Country. His most particular Favourite was *Cimon*, who, in a great measure, ow'd the Figure he afterwards made in the World, to his Friendship and Advice. His chief Characteristic was his Justice: But he had likewise given great Proofs of his Wisdom and Bravery; and he had an Evenness of Temper which carry'd him through all the Circumstances of Life, both as

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to himself, and the Public. He was in all respects so true a Servant of the Public, that *Valerius Maximus* says, upon the Occasion of his Banishment, *It was happy for Athens, that she could find out another good and faithful Citizen after the Banishment of him, with whom Virtue itself was fled from her.* His Case was certainly one of the strongest Instances of the Power of Faction at that time in *Athens*. For he was not of the Number of those, who presum'd so far upon the Merit of their Services, as to endanger the public Liberty; which was the chief Pretence upon which the *Ostracism* was founded. He had no aspiring Views that could give any Umbrage of that kind: His Ambition went no further than to procure the Safety and Honour of the Commonwealth; and if that end were answer'd, he was not very solicitous how it was brought about, or whether by himself or others, or whether by his Friends or his Foes. This was sufficiently experienc'd in his Behaviour to his greatest Enemy *Themistocles*, with whom he readily concurr'd in the Operations of the War, assisted him with his Information, his Counsel, and his Credit, and then let him engross to himself all the Honour of the Victory. He also contented himself with acting in a sort of Subordination to him in the Government. He shew'd the same generous Conduct with regard to *Miltiades* at the Battle of *Marathon*; where he was of equal Rank with him as One of the Ten Generals, who

who were each of them to have their Turn of commanding the Army for a Day. But he wisely consider'd, that the dividing and shifting the Command in this manner, must be attended with great Inconveniencies, that it would occasion the making so many different Dispositions, and the giving so many different Orders, that it would be hardly possible to form, or at least to execute any regular Plan of Action. For this reason he propos'd the vesting the whole Power in *Miltiades* singly; and he not only resign'd his own Day of Command to him, but prevail'd with his Collegues to follow his Example. And this he did not out of any Diffidence of himself, or any Backwardness to engage the Enemy: For it was He who chiefly supported *Miltiades* in his Opinion, against the Majority of the Officers, rather to go out and meet the *Persians* in the Field, than to stay and receive them in the Town. By these means it was, that the Success of that Battle may in some measure be ascrib'd to him, without detracting from the Glory of *Miltiades*. He acted in the same disinterested manner in the Senate and the Assembly, where he often put up his Proposals in others Names, that nothing of personal Prejudice, or private Enmity might interfere with the Good of the Community. He procured several Laws to be pass'd, according as the Exigency of Affairs made them necessary: And among the rest, there was one very remarkable,

markable, by which all the Citizens, without Distinction, were made capable of bearing Office, and of being admitted to a Share in the Government; which was a great Change in the Constitution, and directly contrary to *Solon's* Scheme. This he did of himself when he was *Archon*; and it was the more extraordinary, because he naturally favour'd the Nobility. But when he found the People carry it high upon their Service against the *Persians*, he thought it of less dangerous Consequence to let them into the Administration by Law, than that they should endeavour to let themselves into it by Force. However it happen'd that they made a more modest use of this Privilege than could have been expected: For they contented themselves with being chosen into some of the lowest Employments, without aspiring to the Magistracy. As by this means the main intent of the Law was lost, it grew by degrees into disuse, except that now and then as Factions prevail'd, and as particular Men found their account in courting the People, they were spirited up to murmur against their Superiors, and to assert their Right of sharing with them in the Government. They were encourag'd in it chiefly by *Pericles*, who likewise annex'd Salaries to those little Offices, which, by common Consent, they were allow'd to execute: And probably it was owing to these Advantages, and such further Marks of Indulgence, as from time to time they receiv'd,



receiv'd, that they seldom carry'd their Pretensions so high, as, according to the full Extent of the Law, they might have done; and that the Administration was, generally speaking, left in the hands of those, whose Birth, Fortune and Education gave them a more natural Title to it. Thus the Inconveniences, which might have arisen from this Law, were in a great measure prevented; and the Good that resulted from it, was ascribed chiefly to *Aristides*. Upon the whole, he had at least the second hand in raising *Athens* to her present Pitch of Grandeur: and as *Themistocles* was the greatest, so *Aristides* was the best Man of his time.

*Athens* being depriv'd of these Supports, the chief Burden lay upon *Cimon*; who having been successful hitherto, and being furnish'd with more Ships and Provisions, scour'd the *Asiatic* Seas, and made to *Caria*; where all the *Grecian* Cities upon the Sea-coast immediately came in; and the rest, which were garrison'd by the *Persians*, he took partly by Storm, and partly by managing Intelligence within their Walls. After which, he met with the like Success in *Lycia*. So closely did he pursue them, that he would not let them take breath, or put their Affairs in any Posture: So that from *Ionian* to *Pamphylia* there was not a Man appear'd for the *Persian*. Having Notice that they had some Land-forces making head against him upon the Coasts of *Pamphylia*, and that they were supported by a Fleet of at

least three hundred and fifty Sail, he immediately directed his Course towards *Cyprus*, about which the Fleet lay. The first Opposition he met with, was at *Phaselis* inhabited by *Grecians*, who, upon a Pretence of Neutrality, deny'd him Entrance into their Port: But he soon oblig'd them to pay down ten Talents as a Fine, and to join their Forces with him.

The whole *Persian* Fleet anchor'd at the Mouth of the River *Eurymedon*, where they expected a Reinforcement of *Phœnician* Ships, and therefore declin'd fighting, till they could come up: But *Cimon* rang'd his Gallies in such a Posture, as to prevent their joining, and yet force them to fight. Upon which they retir'd further within the Mouth of the River; till finding the *Athenians* making up to them, they met them

*The Fight* and gave them Battle. Having the Superiority  
at *Eury-* of an hundred Sail, they maintain'd the Con-  
*medon.*

A. M. sict for some time, but at last they were forc'd  
3534. to Shore, where they who came first threw  
Olym. 77. themselves upon Land, leaving their empty  
3.

Vessels to the Enemy. So that besides what were sunk, the *Athenians* took an hundred, and some Accounts double that Number. Upon this their Land-Army drawing towards the Sea, *Cimon* was in Suspence, whether he should make a Descent: But finding his Men resolute, and flush'd with Victory, he landed them before they had wiped off the Sweat, and Blood of the first Engagement. *Diodorus* says, they were landed by a  
Stra-

Stratagem of *Cimon's* who dress'd the best of his Men in *Persian* Habits, and put them on board the Vessels he had taken. However it was, they no sooner touch'd Ground, but they set up a Shout, and ran furiously upon the Enemy, who sustain'd the first Shock with great Obstinacy; so that the Fight began to be very doubtful, several principal Men of the *Athenians* being slain. At length the *Persians* were totally routed, some taken Prisoners, and all their Tents plunder'd; wherein was a great deal of rich Booty, most of which was employ'd by *Cimon* in public Buildings about the City. Thus did *Cimon* obtain two intire Victories, which in some sense may be said to surpass those of *Salamis*, and *Platæa*, being both gain'd the same Day, and by the same Men. And to make them yet more compleat, he intercepted eighty Sail of *Phœnicians*, who knowing nothing of the Defeat, were coming up to the Assistance of their Allies: The Ships were all taken, and the Men either slain, or drown'd.

The *Persian* after this was glad to treat upon any Terms; and a Peace was concluded extremely honourable on the *Grecians* Side, the chief Articles being, *That the Grecian Cities in Asia should be left in the quiet Enjoyment of their Liberty; and that both the Land and Sea Forces of the Persians should be kept at such a Distance from the Grecians Seas, as not to give any Umbrage.* 'Tis true, the Account of this Peace

*A Peace concluded betwixt Greece and Persia.*

depends chiefly upon the Authority of *Plutarch*; for others place it lower, upon *Cimon's* Expedition against *Cyprus*. To confirm which latter Opinion, it is certain the same Inveteracy continu'd between the two Nations, and therefore this first Treaty was not inviolably observ'd: But as the War was prosecuted only by the *Athenians*, and that very faintly, and not so directly against the *Persian*, it never after this Defeat at *Eurymedon* came to a decisive Battle, nor indeed to any general Action, till the time that *Alexander* over-ran *Asia*. For which Reasons we may allow of this Treaty, and with it conclude the *Persian* War.

About the time of *Xerxes's* Expedition, the Study of Philosophy was translated from *Ionica* to *Athens* by *Anaxagoras* of *Clazomenae*, who became so eminent that he was call'd, \* *The Mind* by way of Distinction. Poetry at the same time was cultivated by *Simonides* of the Island *Ceos*, who excell'd in most kinds of Verse, and recorded the four celebrated Fights at *Marathon*, *Thermopylae*, *Salamis*, and *Plataea*. His chief Talent was *Elegy*; wherein he succeeded so well, that *Catullus* calls his Writings in that kind, *The Tears of Simonides*. But the Original of *Elegy* may be more properly ascrib'd to *Mimnermus*, who was contemporary with *Solon*, and invented that soft Strain to lament the Misfortunes of his Love. To *Simonides* is also ascrib'd the Invention of *artificial Memory*; And his Learning and Wisdom

Anaxagoras.

\* Nōs.

Simonides.

in

in other Matters procur'd him the Esteem and Friendship of the greatest Men of his time, particularly of *Hiero* Tyrant of *Sicily*.



C H A P. IV.

*From the Peace concluded upon Cimon's Victories at the River Eurymedon, to the Beginning of the Peloponnesian War.*

*Containing the Space of 38 Years.*

THE *Athenian* Forces being withdrawn from *Asia*, were employ'd in reducing the *Thracian Chersonese*. After which they fell upon the *Thasians*, upon the account of some rich Mines they were possess'd of. *Cimon* having defeated them at Sea, they stood a Siege; and in the mean while desired the *Spartans* to invade *Attica*. But they had at that time their Hands full in repairing the Damages of a violent Earthquake, which had destroy'd a great many Men, with most part of their Buildings: And *Pausanias*, by tampering with the *Helots*, had left such Impressions upon them, that they took this Opportunity to rebel. So that the *Thasians*, not being able to procure a Diversion, submitted upon Terms in the third Year of the Siege. But *Cimon*, instead of being rewarded for this Service,

*The Chersonese subdued.*

*And Thasians.*

Cimon accus'd. was accus'd of holding Intelligence with the

King of *Macedon*, because, when the Passage was open'd, he did not make a further Irruption into his Territories. He urg'd several things in his Defence, and was seconded by his Sister *Elpinice*; who addressing herself to *Pericles* in his behalf, he answer'd her with a Smile, *You are too old, Madam, to manage Affairs of this nature.* However he became afterwards more mild in his Prosecution; he rose up but once to plead against him, and then did it so faintly, that he was easily acquitted.

*The Rise of Pericles.*

But since we have mention'd *Pericles* as one who appear'd now with an establish'd Character, and began to take upon him the chief Management of Affairs in *Athens*, it may be necessary to take a more distinct View of him, that we may see both by what Steps he arriv'd to that Eminence in the State, and what Alterations the State itself suffer'd under him. He was descended of one of the best Families in *Athens*, his Father being *Xanthippus*, who had been very active against the *Persian*, and bore a considerable Sway in the City, and his Mother *Agariste*, the Grand-daughter of *Clisthenes*. His Education was suitable to his Birth; and having a strange Vivacity of Parts, he easily retain'd and improv'd the Instructions of the best Masters: Among whom *Anaxagoras* was the chief; for as others had only furnish'd him with some loose Notions of Philosophy, he establish'd in him

him *Maxims* of sound Sense, and put him upon an Inquiry into the secret Springs and Arts of Government. It was observ'd, that he bore a near Resemblance to *Pisistratus* both in Person and Parts: But he was so far from thinking this an Advantage, that it made him shy of meddling with State-Affairs, lest it should be thought he was carrying on the same Designs. For this Reason his first Service was in the Wars, where he acquitted himself with Honour: But he took his Opportunity, as *Themistocles*, *Aristides*, and the other great Men went off, to apply himself to the State, as his more proper Province; where he appear'd with an extraordinary Advantage in the *Art of Speaking*. He had accusom'd himself by a Flow of Words to confute any Opinion, right or wrong; and the Use he made of this Faculty, was to work every thing to his own Designs. His way of haranguing was said to be in an *Imperial Strain*; from whence most probably he had the Surname of *Olympius*, by which was meant, that like *Jupiter*, *he thunder'd when he spoke*. And then the Tunableness of his Voice, the Air of his Face, his very Dress and Gesture, had something of a commanding Gravity, which charm'd and astonish'd all that heard or saw him. The chief Obstacle to his Rise he found was *Cimon*, whose Candor, Liberality, and good Service had procur'd him a general Love and Esteem, and who besides had fix'd a particular

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Interest

Interest with the Nobility: So that *Pericles* in Opposition to him fell in with the People; and as he saw no other way of pushing his Ambition, this made him guilty of some mean popular Compliances, which otherwise the Greatness of his Spirit, and the Reservedness of his Temper would not have consented to. As he was not yet upon an equal Foot with *Cimon*, who had Money enough to display his generous Qualities to Advantage, and by that means to thwart his Designs, this put him upon making use of the public Money: So that by Bribes, Largeesses, and other Distributions, he easily gain'd the People. Having laid this promising Foundation, he struck next at the Council of *Areopagus*; and by the Assistance of *Epbialtes* another mighty Champion for the People, he withdrew most Causes from the Cognizance of that Court, and brought the whole Order into Contempt. By these Methods he soon got the Ascendant over all his Competitors; and if *Cimon* was permitted to continue in Employment, it was because he was wanted, and through the Easiness of his Temper he comply'd, and gave way, contenting himself rather with the Merit, than the Reward of serving his Country. *Plutarch* says in praise of *Pericles*, that he divided his Authority with *Cimon*, and that, suitably to their different Qualifications, he assign'd to him the Management of the War, and reserv'd to himself the Civil Administration. But this Partition



tion was more an Act of Necessity, than of Choice: For he found the other had still too powerful an Interest to be wholly laid aside, and that he could not well go on without him. However he took care to keep him at a distance, and to employ him in such a manner, as to prevent his comptrolling him, or interfering with him in the Business of the State.

The *Lacedæmonians* in their Distress sent for some *Athenian* Succours to suppress their Slaves: But *Ephialtes* oppos'd it, as a very wrong Step, to raise up or assist a City that was Rival to *Athens*; he insisted, *That it was necessary to break the Pride and Arrogance of Sparta; and that the best means of doing it, was, while She was down, to keep her so.* *Cimon* urging on the contrary, *That they should not suffer Greece to be maim'd by the Loss of so considerable a Member, nor their own City to be depriv'd of her Companion,* obtain'd leave to march out with a good Body to their Relief. But however the *Helots* were dispers'd for the present, they soon got to an head again; and having drawn several of their Neighbours into a Confederacy, possess'd themselves of *Isthme*, the old Receptacle in the *Messenian* Wars. Upon which the *Spartans* dispatch'd Messengers a second time to *Athens* for Supplies: Which were no sooner arriv'd, but their Minds chang'd; so that either distrustful, or disdainful of their Service, they sent them home again. Whatever Cause of Resentment

ment the *Spartans* had hitherto met with, they had still carry'd it fair, or at least cautiously; But this was such an open Affront, that it became the Grounds of a long profess'd Enmity between the two States. The *Athenians* vented their Anger first upon *Cimon*, as a Favourer of the *Lacedæmonians*. He was indeed an Admirer of their Constitution, and had Personal Obligations to them, being, at his first Rise, chiefly countenanc'd by them in Opposition to *Themistocles*. Besides he had created himself Enemies, by espousing the Interest of the Nobility against *Pericles*, and *Ephialtes*. So that upon these, and other slight Pretences, he was forced to submit to the *Ten Years Banishment*. But whatever was alledg'd against him, his Case was much the same with that of his Predecessors; He had done too much to live easy, or safe with a People, who fear'd none so much as the Authors of their Deliverance; so that they had recourse to the *Ostracism*, as an Expedient always at hand; and it was now grown so customary, that it was in a manner become the *Test* of a Man's Merit.

Cimon  
banish'd.

The next Step the *Athenians* made, was to quit their Alliance with the *Spartans*, and enter into one with the *Argives* their profess'd Enemies, in which they also comprehended the *Thesfalians*. The jarring of these two States gave occasion to several others to follow their Example. Particularly about this time the Inhabitants

bitants of *Mycenæ* presuming upon their Service in the *Persian Wars*, endeavour'd to recover their ancient Splendor, by throwing off their Dependence upon the Commonwealth of *Argos*. The *Argives* had long look'd upon them with a jealous Eye; and took this Opportunity of humbling them, whilst the *Spartans* were too deeply engag'd in their Domestick War, to relieve them. Accordingly they first defeated them in the Field, and then block'd up their City; which made a very good Defence for some time, 'till being almost exhausted, it was *Mycenæ* taken, and utterly demolish'd. This was the End <sup>taken and demolish'd.</sup> of *Mycenæ*, which had made an early Figure in *Greece*, and been the Nursery of many of her first Heroes. The *Helots* all this while gave the *Spartans* a great deal of Trouble before *Ithome*: <sup>The Helots suppress'd.</sup> But in the tenth Year of the Siege they were forc'd to submit, and being banish'd *Peloponnesus*, the *Athenians* receiv'd them, and settled them with their Families in *Naupactus*, which they had lately taken from the *Lacri Ozola*. There was also about this time a Quarrel between *Corinth* and *Megara*; the latter of which Cities revolting from its Alliance with *Sparta*, was protected, and garrison'd by the *Athenians*: Which, as it was a new Accession to *Athens*, so it was the Grounds of an inveterate Hatred betwixt that State and *Corinth*.

But before we proceed to the Effects of these Divisions, it will be necessary to touch upon a new

*Expedition of the Athenians in Egypt* new Expedition of the *Athenians* in *Egypt*, which had revolted from the *Persian*, at the Instigation of *Inarus* King of *Libya*. The *Athenians*, notwithstanding the late Treaty, had rigg'd out a good Fleet, the Design being laid against *Cyprus*; which lying in the Straits between *Cilicia*, *Syria*, and *Egypt*, would give them a great Command in those Parts, and be upon all occasions a Curb to the *Persian*. *Inarus* knowing of what use they would be to him, diverted them from this Enterprize, by proposing to them a Share in his Conquests, as of far greater consequence to them, than the Addition of a small Island. Accordingly they went with two hundred Sail to his Assistance; and were no sooner landed but they join'd Battle, routed the *Persians*, and pursu'd them to *Memphis*, took two Parts of the City, and block'd up the third, which went by the Name of the *White Wall*. *Artaxerxes*, tho' he sent above three hundred thousand Men into the Field, was so hard press'd, that he practis'd with the *Lacedamonians* to invade *Attica*; in hopes the *Athenians* would be recall'd to its Defence. This was the first Instance of the *Persians* attempting to bribe one Part of *Greece* to act against the other: However their Generosity, or their Fear, sway'd so much with them, as to reject his Proposals. But the *Persians* coming next Year with a great Reinforcement of Men and Shipping, gave a mighty Turn to their Affairs.

fairs. The *Athenians* made several Attempts to storm the *White Wall*: But upon the Approach of these Forces, they were oblig'd to raise the Siege, and retire into *Byblus* a Town of *Profepis* an Island of the *Nile*, with their Fleet lying in the River before the Town. Here they held out a Siege of eighteen Months: After which the *Persians* turning the course of the River, drain'd the Channel; and having by that means taken their Gallies, put all the Men to the Sword, except some few who escap'd into *Libya*: Tho' *Diodorus* says, that finding their Ships made useless by this Stratagem, they set fire to 'em themselves, resolving to fight it out to the last Man; and that the *Persians* seeing their Obstinacy, let them go upon Terms. 'Tis certain, that being abandon'd by the *Ægyptians*, they were so weaken'd that they could not make head again. And to complete their Misfortunes, it happen'd that fifty Sail being sent to their Relief, and knowing nothing of their Defeat, fell in with the *Phanicians* at *Mendesium* one of the Mouths of *Nile*, and were most of them destroy'd.

Six Years the *Athenians* spent in this fruitless Expedition; during which time their Fellow-Citizens found Employment enough among their Neighbours. Their Quarrel with the *Corinthians* about *Megara* came to two pitch'd <sup>Quarrels</sup> Battles; wherein the *Epidaurians* assisted <sup>with their</sup> *Corinthians*, and both Sides were victorious in their turns.

turns. Soon after the War was renew'd with the *Aegihetians*, whose Reputation for Sea-Affairs having been confirm'd by their Service against the *Persian*, they could ill bear the excessive Growth of the *Athenian* Power. But they were shamefully defeated with the Loss of seventy Sail: After which *Leocrates* landed in the Island, and block'd up the City. The *Peloponnesians* sent three hundred Men to its Relief: And the *Corinthians* took this Opportunity, whilst the *Athenian* Forces were divided betwixt *Egypt* and *Egina*, to make Incursions into *Megaris*. But the *Athenians* march'd out of the City to a Man against them under the Conduct of *Myronides*. In the first Battle the *Corinthians* without reason pretended to have the better: but upon their coming to erect a Trophy, a second ensu'd, wherein they were intirely defeated.

The next Quarrel of Importance was between the *Phocians* and *Dorians*; to the Assistance of which latter, the *Lacedaemonians*, as being originally descended from them, sent an Army of eleven thousand five hundred Men. These Forces soon brought the *Phocians* to Terms; but gave occasion to a much sharper Contest with the *Athenians*: Who perceiving that they loiter'd about *Boetia*, for fear of being intercepted in their Return, drain'd their City again, and with their own, and their confederate Forces, making up fourteen thousand Men, met them about *Tandgra*, a City not far distant

*The Battle  
at Tana-  
gra.*

stant from *Thebes*. Here *Cimon* came in to them; and tho' he was still under the Sentence of *Ostracism*, rang'd himself with those of his own Tribe. But the Council of five hundred not knowing what Designs he might have, commanded the Officers not to receive him: Whereupon he left the Army, conjuring *Exhippas*, and the rest of his Companions; who lay under the same Suspicion of favouring the Enemy, to behave themselves so, as to vindicate their good Intentions to their Country. They follow'd his Advice; and being an hundred in number, made a separate Body; and the Battle being join'd, charg'd so desperately, that they were all cut off, leaving to the *Atbenians* a double Regret, both for the Loss of such brave Men, and for their having so unjustly suspected them. After a great Slaughter on both Sides, the *Lacedæmonians* obtain'd the Victory; which was occasion'd chiefly by the Revolt of the *Thessalian* Horse to them in the heat of the Action. After which they harass'd *Megaris*, and return'd home through the *Isthmus*.

The *Atbenians*, in about two Months after this Defeat, resolving to revenge themselves, march'd again into *Bæotia*, and intirely routed the Inhabitants, with those *Lacedæmonian* Forces which were left about *Tanagra*. This Battle was *Another* fought at a Place call'd *Oenophyta*, or the *Vine- as Oenophyta.* *yards*: And tho' the Manner and Order of  
it

it is no where describ'd, *Diodorus* makes it as famous as any of Antiquity, in regard it was fought against as stout and hardy a People as any in *Greece*, and the Success of it was owing purely to the *Athenian* Valour, without the Assistance of their Confederates. After the Fight they took *Tanagra* by Storm, and demolish'd it; over-run the greatest Part of *Bœotia*, as also of *Phocis*, and the *Locri Opuntii*; of which latter they took an hundred Hostages, and return'd to *Athens*; where *Myronides* their General was receiv'd with great Acclamations, for having accomplish'd so much in so short a compass of Time. And it was upon the good Management and Success of this Expedition, that he has been rank'd with the greatest of the *Athenian* Captains; tho' his Name and Actions being not so generally recorded, have consequently made less Noise in the World. The *Athenians* at this time finish'd their long Walls, which join'd the City to the Port, and which they had begun after the last Defeat of the *Corinthians*. And notwithstanding their many Divisions, the Siege of *Ægina* had been carry'd on without Interruption; and the Inhabitants now yielding it up, had no other Terms given them, than to raise the Walls, deliver up their Shipping, and pay their Tribute for the future. The next who signaliz'd himself in *Athens*, was *Tolmides*, who in Emulation of the Honour obtain'd by *Myronides*, coasted *Peloponnesus* with fifty Gallies,



Gallies, and four thousand Men on board them, and took *Gytheum* a Port-Town of *Laconia*; where he burnt and destroy'd their Naval Forces, and harass'd the Country. From thence he made successful Inroads into the *Corinthian* Territories, and defeated the *Sicyonians* in a Land Fight.

These were the Transactions of the *Athenians* during the War in *Agypt*: But about the time of the Defeat there, a Stop was also put to their Career in *Greece*. Particularly they were foil'd in *Thessaly*, attempting to reinstate *Orestes*, who being banish'd thence, had begg'd their Assistance. After which *Pericles* put to Sea, and took much the same Compass *Tolmides* did, but not altogether with the same Success. He harass'd the Cities upon the Sea-Coasts, gave the *Sicyonians* another Overthrow, and taking in fresh Supplies at *Acbaia* which was then in League with *Athens*, put over to *Acarnania*; but was forc'd to return without performing any thing of Importance. The *Athenians*, ever since the Business of *Tanagra*, suspected a Storm from *Sparta*: And as the Event of that Action had given them Cause to repent their ill Usage of *Cimon*, they Cimon re- thought it necessary to their Affairs at this Jun-<sup>call'd.</sup>cture, to have him recall'd. Accordingly, when he had been five Years in Exile, *Pericles*, who was the chief Instrument in his Banishment, writ an Edict for his Return. And being return'd, Procures a he made use of his Interest in *Sparta*, to recon-<sup>Peace be-</sup>cile that State to *Athens*; which he so far ef-<sup>twixt A-</sup>fect'd, <sup>Sparta.</sup>

fectcd, that a Peace was concluded betwixt 'em for five Years.

*His Expedition to Cyprus.*

Peace being establish'd, he found the *Athenians* impatient of Ease: And lest so many Ships cruising about *Peloponnesus*, and the Isles, should give fresh Occasion to intestine Wars, he propos'd to make another Attempt upon *Cyprus*. Tho' some say, *Pericles* made this a private Condition of his Return, that he should command the Forces abroad upon some Expedition against the *Persians*, and leave him to govern in the City. And it seems very probable, that something of this nature pass'd betwixt 'em, because *Pericles* had constantly taken occasion, whilst the other was abroad, to reverse all that had been done by him in favour of the Nobility. Whatever the Motive was, he mann'd out two hundred Gallies, and being arriv'd at *Cyprus*, detach'd sixty of them for the Service in *Egypt*. For tho' upon the last Defeat there, *Inarus* was taken, and most of the Country reduc'd, the fenny Parts of it still held out under *Amyrtæus*. *Cimon* in the mean while over-run great part of the Island *Cyprus*, and laid Siege to *Cittum*: But lying before the Town, (whether sick or wounded, is not determin'd) and perceiving he should die, he charg'd those about him to conceal the News of his Death, which they manag'd with such Secrecy, that the *Grecian* Army was conducted, as it were, by him thirty Days after he was dead. And having obtain'd

*His Death.*

obtain'd a great Victory, wherein they took an hundred of the *Phœnician, Cyprian, and Cilician* Vessels, and being join'd by the Ships, which return'd from *Ægypt*, they sail'd home. *Diodorus* insinuates, that it was upon this Defeat that memorable Peace was concluded which is mention'd after the Fight at *Eurymedon*: But as all Writers agree as to the main Articles, tho' not as to the time, this might probably be the same Treaty renew'd.

With *Cimon* in a great measure fell that true *And Character.* Spirit of Gallantry which had hitherto animated a Race of Heroes against the common Enemy. And as he was the last, so in one respect he was the greatest of them; inasmuch as he struck a greater Terror into the *Persian*, by carrying the War almost into the Heart of his Country; and aw'd him so in the *Lesser Asia*, that no Officer of what Quality or Character so ever could command there, nor durst any Soldier appear in Arms within four hundred Furlongs of the Sea. When he first offer'd himself to be employ'd in the Service of the Publick, he was rejected by the People for his dissolute course of Life; and thereupon he quitted all Pretensions of that kind. But *Aristides* perceiving, that whatever his Excesses were, he had in the main a good Disposition to Virtue, took him under his Protection, and reclaim'd him; and from thenceforwards he was principally concern'd in most of the great Actions that hap-  
X 2 pen'd.

pen'd in his time, both at Sea and Land. He had great Discernment of Persons and Things, and was otherwise well qualified for the Administration : But his Service was chiefly abroad ; and that was owing in a great measure to *Pericles*, who was rising upon him, and had great Views in the Management of Affairs at home. *Cimon* improv'd upon the Plan laid down by *Themistocles* for increasing the Naval Power of *Athens*. For which purpose, when he found the Allies grown weary of the War, and that they turn'd their Thoughts more to Trade and Husbandry, he indulg'd them in it. According to the Tax settled for maintaining the War, they were to contribute their Proportion of Money, Ships and Men. As to the Money part, they made no difficulty of complying with it ; and they were willing enough to furnish their *Quota* of Ships, but they did not care to serve on board them. From hence *Cimon* took occasion to man them with his Fellow-Citizens ; who being by this means kept in constant exercise, rais'd the Credit of the *Athenians* at Sea, and by insensible degrees reduc'd those who had hitherto acted upon a foot of Equality with them as Friends and Confederates, to a Condition little better than that of Tributaries and Vassals. But the *Athenians* were afterwards oblig'd to behave with more Moderation towards their Allies, when they wanted their Assistance against the *Peloponnesians*. *Cimon* was, next to *Aristides*,  
most

most remarkable for his Justice and Integrity, and Contempt of Money. He gave an handsome turn to *Resaces a Persian*; who having fled from the King his Master, came to him for Protection against the Insults of some of the Mob in *Athens*, and offer'd him two Cups full of *Darius's*: *Cimon* ask'd him smilingly, *Whether he would have him to be his Mercenary, or his Friend?* He reply'd, *His Friend. Why then,* says he, *take away your Money: For as such, I presume it is at my Service, whenever I shall have occasion for it; and when I have, I'll send to you.* He had great Good-nature and Humanity, and a very extensive Charity. He lived hospitably and plentifully, but not profusely. His Table and his Gardens were open to all without distinction; and this without Ostentation, or any View of ingratiating himself with the People: For he sided with the Nobility. But he chose to live well with every body: And if he had any political view in obliging the lower Rank of the Citizens, it was, by these Acts of Beneficence, to restrain a Spirit of Faction, which he saw was breaking in upon the Constitution.

Soon after these Transactions abroad, happen'd a Quarrel about the Temple at *Delphi*, from whence it was call'd the *Holy War*. The *Lacedæmonians* taking it from the *Phocians*, who had got Possession of it, gave it up to the Inhabitants: But immediately upon their Departure, *Pericles* came with a Body of *Athenians*,

nians, and put the *Phocians* in again. And now the *Bæotians* beginning to revolt, the *Asbenians* seiz'd several of their Towns, and garrison'd them: But the *Bæotians* being join'd by their Neighbours, surpris'd them in their Return, and

*The Battle at Coronea*  
cut off the greatest part of their  
Forces, with *Tolmides* their General, and took  
the rest Prisoners; to redeem whom, the *Asbo-*  
*nians* were forc'd to restore them to their Coun-  
try, and Liberty. As the Event of this Ac-  
tion serv'd mightily to raise the Peoples Esteem  
of *Pericles*, who had us'd his utmost Efforts to  
dissuade *Tolmides* from it, as a rash Enterprize,  
and ill-tim'd; so it encourag'd the *Eubæans* to  
make head: And *Pericles* was no sooner landed  
in the Island to chastise them, but News came  
that *Megara* had also revolted; and that the  
*Lacedæmonians* were harassing the Borders of  
*Attica*. Upon which he quitted this War to  
attend that which threaten'd at home: Where  
instead of putting it to the Issue of a Battle, he  
practis'd with *Plistoanax* the *Spartan* King, and  
by the means of *Cleandrides* (whom the *Ephori*  
had sent with him by reason of his Youth, as  
his Assistant) bought him off. *Pericles* in giv-  
ing up his Accounts of this Expedition, had set  
down a Disbursement of ten Talents, as laid  
out upon a necessary Occasion; and the People,  
without any further Inquiry, freely allow'd of  
it. It is also said, that he had his yearly Pen-  
sioners in *Sparta*; and that he constantly  
sent

sent the same Sum for the same secret Service : By which means the War was kept off 'till the *Athenians* were provided. 'Tis said, the *Spartans* fin'd their King in such a Sum, that not being able to pay it, he quitted his Country; and his Counsellor, who had fled for it, was sentenc'd to Death. However *Attica* being freed, *Pericles* repairs again to *Eubœa*; and having reduc'd the whole Island, banish'd the Inhabitants of *Hestia*, for having kill'd the Men on board an *Attick* Ship they had taken, and in their room brought in a Colony of his own Citizens. All Parties being rather tir'd than satisfy'd with this variety of Fortune, began to hearken to a Peace, which was at last concluded between *Athens*, and *Sparta* for thirty Years, the Allies of both Sides being included. So that the *Athenians* were forc'd to evacuate A. M. most of the Towns they had garrison'd; and it was further provided, that whatever City had not yet declar'd, should be at liberty to join with either Side, as occasion should serve. At the same time *Diodorus* observes, there was a general Peace in all Parts.

During this Interval, it may not be improper to take a Survey of *Athens*; where *Pericles* was still improving his Interest with the People. But as they found *Cimon's* Death had put him in a Capacity of carrying his Designs further than they could allow of, they set up *Thucydides* against him, a Man sober and discreet,

and related to *Cimon*. And tho' he was not so profess'd a Soldier as he, he was better vers'd in the Courts of Law, and Business of State, and in that respect a more suitable Match for his Competitor. He having sever'd out the best sort of Men, who before pass'd undistinguish'd among the Multitude, form'd them into a Body, which pass'd under the Name of *The Few*, or the *Great Ones*, in opposition to the *Commons*. And tho' this Distinction could not but create some Disturbances, it serv'd however as a Counterpoise to the State in general, which apprehended less from the Contention of two establish'd Parties, than from the uncontrol'd Power of one Man. *Pericles* in the mean while manag'd his Affairs with such Nicety, that he temper'd all his Actions with an Air of greater Advantage to the State, than himself. Such was his sending sixty Gallies yearly, with a proportionable Number of the Citizens on board them, as a *Nursery* for Seamen. Such was his planting another Part of them in the late Conquests, and dividing the Lands among them by Lot. As by these Methods he aw'd both the Enemies and Allies of *Athens*, so he provided for the Necessitous, and had a further End in discharging the City of the Idle, and consequently the most meddling and inquisitive Part of the People. Then to cajole, and amuse those who were left, he entertain'd them with public Shews, Feasts, and  
other



other Solemnities. And to keep them generally employ'd, and make some Shew of the vast Sums he expended in these Projects, he set to beautifying the City far beyond what his Predecessors had attempted. He gave such Encouragement, as produc'd a strange sort of Emulation in all kinds of Artists: So that *Athens* on a sudden became *one continu'd Ornament*. As a Specimen of the rest, he restor'd and enlarg'd the *Parthenion*, or Temple of *Minerva* burnt by the *Persians*; which is said to be even at this Day, both for Matter and Art, the most beautiful Piece of Antiquity remaining in the World. It was from this time that *Athens* came to be so much admir'd by Strangers, and envy'd by her Neighbours: And this Politeness, Pomp, and Luxury in Building, seems to have laid the Foundation of the same Excess, to which she soon after arriv'd in other things. But *Pericles* hereby gave occasion to his Enemies, to reproach him with squandering away the Money which was given for the Maintenance of the War. They complain'd in the popular Assemblies, *That it was what they could not answer either to themselves, or their Allies; that they had no Pretence for removing the Bank of Greece from Delos, but to secure it from the Barbarians; and that he had broke the Neck of that Excuse, by diverting it to other Uses.* *Pericles* urg'd in Defence of himself, and the State, *That they were no way accountable to their Confederates,*

*federates, who did not so much as set out Ship, Men, or Horse for the Service, whilst they were continually expesing themselves in their Defence: That as for the Money, it was not theirs who gave, but theirs who receiv'd it, so long as they perform'd the Conditions upon which they receiv'd it. He added further, That it was fit the Handicraftsmen should have their Share in the publick Money, and yet that they should do something for it; and that since they were sufficiently stor'd with Provisions for the War, they might very fairly convert the Overplus to the Use and Ornament of the City. This salv'd the Business for the present. And when at another time Thucydides's Party was railing at him upon the same Account, he put the Question to the People, Whether they thought he had laid out too much? They told him, Yes. Well then, says he, let it all go upon my Account, and accordingly I'll make the Inscriptions upon the Temples, and other publick Buildings in my own Name. Whether they were struck with the Greatness of his Spirit in this Reply, or that they envy'd him the Glory of the Works, they unanimously bid him go on, and finish them at the public Charge.*

*The Samian Expedition.*

The first new Disturbance happen'd six Years after the Peace, between the *Samians* and *Milesians*, about *Priene* a City of *Ionia*: Wherein the latter being worsted, apply'd themselves to the *Athenians*; who accordingly interest'd them-

themselves in the Quarrel, being also encourag'd to it by a disgusted Party of the *Samians* themselves. *Pericles* appear'd so particularly warm in it, that the State took notice of it; and the rather, because what he did, was thought to be at the Instigation of *Aspasia* a *Milesian* Mistress of his. He mann'd out forty Gallies, and made a Descent upon *Samos*; where breaking up the *Oligarchy*, he establish'd a *Democracy* after the *Athenian* Model; then taking Hostages, transported them to *Lemnos*, and leaving a Garrison in *Samos*, return'd home. In the mean while several of the Citizens, who had fled to the Continent upon the Change of their Government, betook themselves to *Pissutbnes* the *Persian* Governor of *Sardis*, and at the same time holding Correspondence with some of the leading Men in *Samos*, enter'd it by Night with seven hundred Auxiliaries: Where they put all to the Sword who oppos'd them; and having got their Hostages privately convey'd from *Lemnos*, deliver'd up the *Athenian* Garrison to *Pissutbnes*; then drew *Byzantium* into their Alliance, and renew'd the War with the *Milesians*.

*Pericles* having notice of this Surprise, put to Sea again with sixty Sail: With forty four of them he fell in with the Enemy, and obtain'd a signal Victory, having taken, sunk, and routed the whole *Samian* Fleet consisting of seventy Sail, twenty of which were Men of War. Having by this means made himself Master of the

the Port, he pursu'd his Victory by Land, and block'd up the City. But instead of pressing the Siege, he went with a fresh supply of Ships in quest of the *Phœnician* Fleet, which he heard was coming to the Relief of the besieg'd; who in the mean time finding great Detachments drawn off, made a successful Sally, and recover'd the Harbour; so that having an open Sea, they imported all their necessary Provisions. But *Pericles* being return'd with still greater Supplies from home, which were also augmented by a Fleet of *Cbians* and *Lesbians*, he hemm'd them in with a Wall, and made use of battering Engines: So that with small Loss he carry'd the Town in the ninth Month

*Samos reduc'd.*

of the Siege, obliging them *To demolish their Walls, deliver up their Shipping, pay a good Fine towards the Charge of the War, and give*

A. M.

3564-  
Olymp.  
85. 1.

*H hostages for Security.* This happen'd about the Beginning of the eighty fifth *Olympiad*; from which time, 'till the twentieth Year of the *Peloponnesian* War, *Samos* continu'd in Alliance with *Athens*, and under the popular Government. The War being over, *Byzantium* also return'd to its former Obedience. This was the chief of *Pericles's* military Exploits; and he could not help valuing himself upon it so far, as to say, *He had in nine Months done as much against the chief City of Ionia, as Agamemnon did in ten Years against Troy.* The Truth is, he met with more Hazard and Difficulty than he was aware

aware of, the *Samians* being arriv'd to that Power by Sea, that they were within very little of wresting the Dominion of it out of the *Atbenians* Hands.

The next Commotions were about two Years <sup>*Stirs at*</sup> after at *Epidamnus*, and require a distinct Re- <sup>*Epidam-*</sup> <sup>*nus.*</sup> lation, as they give light to the Sequel of the Story, and are the common reputed Grounds of that Flame, which was kindled in all *Greece*. *Epidamnus*, afterwards known by the Name of *Dyrrbachium*, was a Colony of the *Corcyreans*; which growing first Rich, and then. Factious; banish'd the chief of her Citizens. The Exiles joining with the *Illyrians* their Neighbours, brought the *Epidamnians* so low, that they were forc'd to send to *Corcyra* their Mother City for Assistance; which rejecting their Request, the Oracle directed them to the *Corinthians*, as their Original Founders. For as *Corcyra* was their Founder, so *Corinth* was the *Corcyreans*; and *Phalius* of the Posterity of *Hercules*, who led the Colony into *Epidamnus*, was himself a *Corinthian*, and carry'd several of his Countrymen with him. Accordingly, upon their giving up themselves, and their City to them, they took them under their Protection, but not more out of Pity to them, than out of a Pique to *Corcyra*; whose Wealth and Naval Power, wherein she was little inferior to any State in *Greece*, had made her insolent, so as to throw off all manner of Dependence on them, even  
to

to the common Marks of Acknowledgment, due from a Colony to its *Metropolis*. The *Corinthians* having sent some new Inhabitants to *Epidamnus*, with a Garrison to secure them, the *Corcyraens* resented it as interposing in their Affairs; and going with a Fleet to *Epidamnus*, commanded the Citizens to receive their Exiles and expel the *Corinthians*; and upon their positive Refusal, block'd them up. In the mean time, when they found the *Corinthians* preparing to relieve them, they offer'd to refer it to any indifferent City of *Peloponnesus*, as to the Right of the Colony. But the *Corinthians* resolving to humble them, sent a Fleet of seventy five Gallies, with two thousand Soldiers on board them. The *Corcyraens* had an hundred and twenty Sail; forty of which being left, to carry on the Siege, they made up to them with the rest near the Promontory of *Asium*, and defeated them: And to make it a complete Victory, *Epidamnus* was surrender'd up to 'em the same Day.

Being now Masters of those Seas, they infested the other Colonies and Confederates of *Corinth*. But the Summer following, the *Corinthians* made very great Preparations, in order to revenge this Disgrace: Which the others having notice of, laid their Case before the *Athenians*, insisting upon the Article of their late Treaty with the *Peloponnesians*, which gave them leave to take any State, that had not been engag'd,

engag'd, into their Alliance. The *Corinthians* at the same time put in their Remonstrances: And after a full Hearing on both Sides, and two Assemblies of the People, they concluded *Corcyra* was a Place of too great Importance, in regard both of its own Strength, and as it was a convenient Pass into *Italy* and *Sicily*, to let it be an Accession to *Corinth*. Yet, as on the other hand, they were tender of violating the Peace, they made only a Defensive League with it, giving their Officers in Charge to decline the Fight, unless the *Corcyraeans*, or they were first attack'd. Accordingly they voted an Aid of ten Gallies: But the sending so small a Squadron was look'd upon rather as an Hardship upon *Lacedaemonius* the Son of *Cimon*, who commanded it, than a Relief to *Corcyra*; and as it stuck chiefly upon *Pericles*, who did all he could to hinder the Rise of *Cimon's* Family, he was forc'd to procure a new Supply; but it came too late to do much Service. The *Corinthians* putting to Sea with ninety Ships of their own, and sixty of their Allies, the *Corcyraeans* met 'em betwixt their Island, and the Continent of *Epirus*, with a hundred and twenty of their own, and the *Athenians*. As this was the greatest Number that had hitherto been engag'd of the *Grecians* among themselves, so the Fight was long and obstinate, but artless and confus'd, and rather desperate, than decisive. For tho' the *Corcyraeans* lost seventy Sail for

*The Fight  
between  
the Corcy-  
raeans and  
Corinthi-  
ans.*

for thirty of the Enemy, and a hundred Prisoners; yet as, upon the Arrival of twenty Sail more from *Athens*, they kept the Sea, recover'd a great part of their Wreck, and dead Bodies, and made another Offer of Battle, which was not accepted, this made the Claim of Victory so equal, that both Sides erected Trophies. Whatever Advantage the *Corinthians* had, they did not care to pursue it; so that being content to leave *Corcyra*, rather Safe than Victorious, they return'd home, having, in their Passage, taken *Anactorium* a Town in the Bay of *Ambracia*. But they complain'd loudly of the *Athenians*, as having violated the Treaty, in which they were compris'd with the *Spartans*:

*The first  
Grounds of  
the Peloponnesian  
War.*

And this was the first Pretence of the general War which follow'd. What they call'd the breaking of the Peace, the *Athenians* term'd only assisting their Confederates: But they did not depend much upon the Nicety of this Distinction; and finding it must come to an open Rupture, thought it the wisest Course to be beforehand with them.

Accordingly they sent to the Inhabitants of *Potidea*, a Town in the *Isthmus* of *Pallene* a *Corinthian* Colony, but tributary to *Athens*, to demolish their Walls towards *Pallene*, to give Hostages, to expel their Magistrates sent yearly to them from *Corinth*, and to receive no more of them for the future. They had first recourse to Intreaties, that nothing of Extremity



unity might be put upon them: But when they  
 could get no Abatement of these Terms, they  
 went with the *Corinthian* Ambassadors to *Spar-*  
*za*, and obtain'd an Assurance, that, in case the  
*Athenians* made War upon them, the *Laceda-*  
*monians* would enter *Attica* with an Army.  
 They had further Encouragement from *Per-*  
*diccas* the *Macedonian* King, who having at  
 that time a Quarrel with the *Athenians* for as-  
 sisting his Brothers against him, procur'd seve-  
 ral neighbouring Places of *Thrace* and *Macedonia* <sup>Potidea</sup>  
 to join with them in a general Revolt. Be- <sup>and other</sup>  
 sides these home Alliances, they had two thou- <sup>Places re-</sup>  
 sand Men sent 'em from *Corinth* under *Ari-*  
*stæus*. However the *Athenians* went on with  
 their Designs, having before sent Orders to the  
 Captains of the thirty Gallies they had in those  
 Parts, to see their Commands executed upon  
*Potidea*, and to have a watchful Eye upon its  
 Neighbours. But being too weak to deal with  
*Perdiccas*, and the revolted Cities at the same  
 time, they receiv'd a Supply of forty Gallies,  
 with two thousand Men under the Conduct of  
*Callias*. The Forces on both Sides being join'd,  
 a Battle ensu'd, wherein one of the *Athenian*  
 Wings was worsted by the *Corinthians*, but in  
 other Parts they routed *Perdiccas*; which *Ari-*  
*stæus* the *Corinthian* General perceiving, gave  
 over the Pursuit, and breaking through the  
 Ranks, threw himself into *Potidea*. The *Athe-*  
*nians* in this Action lost but an hundred and

Potidea  
besieg'd.

fifty Men, amongst whom was *Gallias*, and the Enemy scarce double that Number. However it was a Victory on the *Athenians* Side; who having soon after receiv'd a fresh Supply of sixteen hundred Men under the Command of *Phormio*, block'd up *Potidea* by Sea and Land. As the Business of *Corcyra* was urg'd against the *Athenians*, so was this of *Potidea* against the *Peloponnesians*; and may be look'd upon as the second Presence for the War, inasmuch as they had incited that, and other Towns to throw off their Dependence on *Athens*.

The Noise of this Siege brought the *Corinthian* Ambassadors to *Sparta*; where they and all other States, which had any Injustice to charge the *Athenians* with, had free Liberty of declaring their Grievances. *Agina* complain'd of being oppress'd contrary to the Liberty allow'd by her last Agreement with *Athens*; *Megara* of being prohibited the Freedom of the *Athenian* Ports and Markets. And when enough had been said to prepare the *Lacedaemonians*, the *Corinthians* made a long Speech to them; wherein taking the Justice of their Resentment for granted, they endeavour'd chiefly to rouse them into a Sense of the common Danger of *Peloponnesus*, so far as to charge them with being selfish and supine, and not acting up to the Reputation they had formerly acquir'd; and that in short, *If they would not take this Opportunity of vindicating themselves, and their Allies,*

*Allies, they must be forc'd to have recourse to those that would.* Some Athenian Ambassadors, who were then at Sparta upon other Business, desired they might have leave to exceed their Commission so far, as to refute what Envy and Prejudice had suggested against their Fellow-Citizens. They began with a Recapitulation of the Persian Wars; wherein the whole Burden in a manner lying upon them, both as to defeating the Enemy, and protecting their Allies, they shew'd by what necessary and almost unavoidable Steps, the chief Power was devolv'd upon them; *That having receiv'd that Power as the Reward of their Virtue, they thought themselves oblig'd to maintain it; that this was not to be done without some proportionable Force; and yet that they had employ'd no more than was absolutely necessary in such Cases.* They desired the Lacedæmonians not to entertain any unjust Suspensions of them; and to be very well advis'd before they enter'd upon a War of the last Importance; for that *Whoever should begin with the Athenians, would certainly find them ready to retaliate.* The Lacedæmonians, after a full and open Hearing, came to a close Debate among themselves; wherein it was generally agreed, that the Peace was broke, and that the Athenians were the Aggressors: The Dispute was, whether they should immediately declare War. Archidamus, one of their Kings, and a Man of Prudence and Temper, told 'em, *They were not*

War de-  
creed at  
Sparta.

at this time a Match for Athens; and endeavour'd to dissuade them not so much from the War in general, as from rushing into it thoughtless, and unprovided. But *Stenelaidas*, one of the *Ephori*, urg'd the contrary, *That when once they had receiv'd an Injury, they ought not to deliberate, but forthwith to proceed to Action, and revenge it.* And accordingly War was decreed, and the Confederates made acquainted with their Resolution.

Whilst they were making Preparations, wherein they spent almost a Year, the *Lacedaemonians*, to make the War appear more specious on their Side, sent several Embassies to expostulate with the *Athenians*. They began with the old Business of *Cylon*, which was levell'd against *Pericles* their mortal Enemy, whose Relations by his Mother's Side were said to be tainted with that Pollution. But he charg'd them with the same Guilt, in the Death of *Pausanias*, and some of their *Helots*, who had taken Sanctuary in the Temple. Then they required them to raise the Siege of *Potidea*; to permit *Egina* to be govern'd by its own Laws; and to revoke the Decree against the *Megaraeans*; and insisted so much upon this latter, that they seem'd to lay the whole Strefs of the War upon it. Receiving no satisfactory Answer to these Proposals, they made another more general Demand, *That they should set free all the Grecian Cities which had any Dependence*

*dence on them.* Which, as it was in effect' confining their Jurisdiction within their own Walls, they could not expect they would consent to it: However it answer'd their Design, which was only to amuse them, and gain time. The *Athenians*, upon this last Message, assembled the People, in order to send a peremptory Answer once for all. The Matter was canvass'd long, and with great variety of Opinions; 'till at last it was fix'd by *Pericles*, who oppos'd their Demands with a great deal of Warmth, and Artifice, shewing, *That tho' some of them were not in themselves sufficient Grounds for a War, yet that the Consequence of their Concession, even in Trifles, when it was extorted from them with an Air of Command, would be, to have still more impos'd upon them: That as to the Success, they might promise themselves a considerable Share from the many different Interests of the Confederates, whereby their Counsels being divided, they would never come to any sudden Resolution, and that if they could, yet their want of Money would keep 'em from putting it in Execution. That as to themselves, their Shipping would enable them to give powerful Diversions, by making frequent Descents: And because their Strength consisted chiefly in Islands, having only Attica that lay open to the Depredations of the Enemy, they could not sustain so great Losses by Land.* He concluded with *The absolute Necessity there was of a War; and that the more chearfully they undertook it, the*

*easier it would be dispatch'd: That as the greatest Honours had generally accru'd to their State out of the greatest Extremities, this might serve to animate them in its Defence, so as not to transmit it less glorious to their Posterity, than they had receiv'd it from their Ancestors. These Reasons were readily assented to by the People; who, to give some colour to their Proceedings, sent a very plausible Answer drawn up by Pericles to this effect, That they would open their Ports and Markets to the Megareans, if the Lacedæmonians would allow the Athenians, and their Allies residing in Sparta, the Privileges of their own Subjects: That they would restore the Cities to the same degrees of Liberty they enjoy'd when the League was made, provided also, that they would do the like to the Cities under their Jurisdiction, and not oblige them to conform to the Model of their Government; and lastly, That they desired to adjust these Differences by Treaty, as being unwilling to begin a War, but resolv'd to defend themselves against those that did.*

*The more immediate Causes of the Peloponnesian War.*

Having mention'd the pretended Grounds of the Quarrel, with the formal Proceedings on both Sides, it may not be amiss to observe, that Pericles was personally interested in promoting this War, insomuch that some have charg'd him as the sole Author of it. 'Tis certain, he was vastly indebted to the State, which had often threaten'd calling him to Account: So that notwithstanding his great Power in the City, he thought

thought it too precarious to screen him against the continual Clamours about the public Money. This private Storm he thought was not to be diverted, but by a public one; and therefore to take the People off from their Inquiries, and to make his Assistance necessary, he involved them in this War. It is said farther, that he took the first Hint of it from his Nephew *Alcibiades*; who seeing him one Day very pensive and melancholy, ask'd him the reason of it. He told him, *He was considering how to make up his Accounts to the State.* You were better consider, replies the Youth, *how to avoid being accountable.* This was undoubtedly a strong Motive with *Pericles* in inflaming the Quarrel, when once it was on foot: But for the War itself, it was what must have broke out of course about this time, without any particular Incendiary. For the true Cause of it was the Power of *Athens*, and the Seeds of it were laid from the time of the Battle at *Platæa*. That Day, so glorious to *Greece*, became fatal to her in the Consequence, by dissolving that Subordination *Athens* bore to *Sparta*, and raising eternal Jealousies betwixt the two States. *Athens*, fir'd with the Success of the Victories against the *Persian*, the chief Honour of which she took to herself, first stood upon Equality with *Sparta*, and then carry'd her Pretensions a great deal higher. She soon affected a Precedency; drew over to her Side the greatest part of the

Y 4                      Allies;

Allies; debated, and decided whatever concern'd the general Welfare; assum'd to herself the Prerogative of Rewards and Punishments; and in a word, set up for the *Sovereign Umpire* of Greece. The *Athenians* had indeed a very fair Title to the Command at Sea; and *Sparta* was not very unwilling to resign it to them: But they would be absolute in all. They thought, since they had deliver'd *Greece* from the Insults of the *Barbarians*, they had a Right to oppress her in their Turn. They roughly treated the *Grecian* Cities, of which they call'd themselves the *Protectors*. If a Neighbour offended them never so little, he soon felt the Weight of all their Anger; whence grew that Proverb recited by *Aristotle*, *An Athenian Neighbourhood*. They render'd themselves odious not only to their Neighbours, but also to part of *Thrace*, and the Isles of the *Ægean* Sea, which were subject to their Laws, but impatiently bore that Yoke, which grew every Day more insupportable. Thus did *Athens* manage herself for above forty Years: All which time the *Spartans* made but faint Attempts to humble or repress their Rivals. Their Method, when any injur'd State appeal'd to them, was to refer 'em to *Athens*, that by engaging her in the Quarrel, they might weaken and dissolve her Power, and yet not at their own Expence. But the Effect was so far from answering what they propos'd, that it serv'd rather to fix and heighten



heighten her Esteem, or at least her Authority. *Pericles* made the City still more formidable to the other Commonwealths, by the several Embassies he caus'd it to depute, either upon its real or pretended Interests; and improv'd these Negotiations into a great Design of summoning all *Greece* to *Athens*, in order to enter into a more strict Confederacy against the *Persian*. Which was such a distinguishing Mark of Pre-eminence, as the *Athenians* had never before assum'd to themselves: And the *Lacedaemonians* could not but resent it, when they found they were to be conven'd before them, like the rest of their Tributaries. Whatever they had hitherto conniv'd at, they did not care to testify their Submission and Dependence in so solemn a manner: And tho' the thing did not take effect, it serv'd however to awaken them into a Sense of the Necessity there was, of putting a Stop to their Career. So that upon this, and the repeated Complaints of several Cities, they found there was no way left, but to make a formal Declaration of War. In a word, the two States were throughly exasperated by a long Emulation; and as they were both arriv'd to their most flourishing Period, this was a Dispute betwixt 'em for the *Empire* of *Greece*, the Pretence for which was, *preserving the Balance, and protecting their Confederates.*

About the time of these Commotions, flourish'd *Meton* the *Astronomer* of *Athens*; who *Meton*.  
found

found out that notable Period of nineteen Years, in which Space all the different Mutations of the Sun and Moon are completed, and they begin again to move from the same Point of the *Zodiack*. This became a Standard among the Ancients in calculating the Full and New Moons; and the Discovery was receiv'd with such Applause by the *Athenians*, that they would have it writ in *Golden Letters* in the most public Place of the City. From hence came the Title of the *Golden Number*; which was handed down from the *Grecians* to the *Romans*, and from them to us *Christians*. But some will not allow *Meton* to have been the Author of this *Cycle*: *Livy* particularly attributes the Invention of it to *Numa Pompilius*. It was also about this time that

*Pindar* dy'd, who was born at *Thebes* about the sixty fourth *Olympiad*. The manner of his Death is related, that having pray'd to the Gods to give him the most desirable thing in Life, he dy'd suddenly, leaning his Head upon a Boy whom he lov'd. His Writings have given us a Standard of the greatest Elevation and Transport, to which it is possible for Poetry to be advanc'd. There is something so vast in his Designs, so strong and lively in his Thoughts, and so pompous and daring in his Expressions and Measures, that it requires scarce less Attention to read him, than to imitate others. For which Reasons his Muse has been censur'd as too unbridled and irregular. But the Design of an *Ode* being not so much

much to inform our Judgment, as to raise our Fancy, this *Irregularity* is not the least of his *Beauties*. It is agreeable to the Rapture the Poet feels; his Spirits are too much in a Ferment, and his Fancy too much upon the wing, to stay for Words to express himself methodically. It is the boldest sort of painting; he gives a masterly Touch here and there, and takes the Likeness of his *Hero* in general, tho' he does not finish the Features. Thus it is, that he has triumph'd over Art so successfully, as to gain the Title of a perfect *Master of the Sublime*, and *Prince of the Lyrick Poets*. It can be no Disadvantage to his Character, to mention his Con-temporary *Bacchylides*, since in comparison of him, he deserves no higher a Title than the *Crow*, as *Pindar* calls him, when he makes himself the *Eagle* soaring above him.





## C H A P. V.

*From the Beginning of the Peloponnesian War, to the Peace concluded between the Athenians and Lacedæmonians for fifty Years.*

*Containing the Space of 10 Years.*

**T**HE *Athenians* receiving no Answer to their last Proposals, thought of nothing but War; which accordingly broke out with the surprising of *Platea* by three hundred *Thebans*, who were let in by a Party of the Town, that join'd in the Conspiracy to bring it over to the common Interest of *Boeotia*. But the Generality of the Townsmen, who were well-affected to the *Athenians*, made head against them, and by the Advantage of the Night so overpower'd them, that being unable to defend what they had taken, they were put to the Sword. The *Athenians* sent a Party to the Relief of the Town; which being recover'd before they came, they were left in it as a Garrison. This Action happen'd in the fifteenth Year of the Peace, being the first of the eighty seventh *Olympiad*, and the 3572d Year of the World.

*The War  
breaks out.  
A. M.  
3572.  
Olymp.  
87. 1.*

Thus

Thus the League being manifestly dissolv'd, <sup>*The Alliances on both Sides.*</sup> both Sides employ'd their utmost Diligence in strengthening their Alliances. The *Lacedaemonians* secur'd all *Peloponnesus*, except the *Argives* and *Acbeans* who stood neuter; tho' amongst these latter, *Pellene* declar'd for them in the Beginning, and the rest came in afterwards. They had also without the *Isthmus*, the *Megaraeans*, *Phocians*, *Locrians*, *Boeotians*, *Ambraciots*, *Leucadians*, and *Anactorians*: All which were allotted their several Proportions, some of Horse, others of Foot, and the rest of Shipping, of which they propos'd to have five hundred Sail, besides what they could procure out of *Italy* and *Sicily*. On the *Athenians* Side were the *Chians*, *Lesbians*, *Plateans*, *Messenians* inhabiting *Naupactus*, most of the *Acarnanians*, with the *Corcyreans* and *Zacynthians*, besides great part of the *Asiatick Grecians*, particularly those on the Sea-coast, several Towns of *Thrace*, with most of the lesser Islands and tributary Cities in general. Of these, *Chios*, *Lesbos* and *Corcyra* furnish'd Shipping, the rest Men and Money. So eager were both Sides in the Prosecution of the War, that they had recourse to the *Barbarians* for Assistance against each other, and sent severally as Suppliants to the King of *Persia*, against whom they were so lately united. Thus was all *Greece* in a manner drawn into the Quarrel, and divided as the States were differently affected: Of which the greatest Part embrac'd the

the *Lacedæmonian* Interest, as the Cause of Justice and Liberty; the rest being detain'd by the *Athenians* more out of Fear than Affection. But whatever the latter wanted in Numbers, was sufficiently made up to them in Money, Shipping, and all necessary Provisions, and in the absolute Power they had over their Confederates.

The *Lacedæmonians*, after the Business of *Plataea*, publish'd their Intentions of invading *Attica*; in order to which, two thirds of the Confederate Cities, making up sixty thousand Men, met at the *Isthmus*: Where *Archidamus*, as General of the Expedition, told them, *The Eyes and Hearts of all Greece were upon them; that whatever they might reasonably promise themselves from their Numbers, they ought not only to allow room for Accidents, but to consider farther how powerful and desperate an Enemy they had to deal with; That tho' it was generally a Maxim to push on boldly in an Enemy's Country; yet they should proceed here with more than ordinary Caution, and guard every one his respective Post.* Thus having prepar'd his Men, he sent once more to the *Athenians*, to see if they would abate any thing of their former Obstinacy. But they resolv'd not to treat with the Enemy in this threatening Posture: So that the Messenger was dismiss'd without hearing, and said at his Departure, *From this Day may Greece date her Miseries.* *Pericles* had a Notion, that *Archidamus*, out of Respect,

Respect to him, (as indeed there was something of a Friendship founded upon the Right of Hospitality betwixt them) would spare his Lands, in the general Havock he would make of every thing else in the Country; and thinking it would rather do him an Injury, in laying him open to the Suspicion and Ill-will of his Fellow-Citizens, he declar'd to them, *That if the Enemy forbore his Estate, he would give it to the Public.* He also order'd those who were dispers'd in the Villages, to retire with their Effects into the City, as the only Place of Security; and encourag'd them by a long Detail of their Provisions; as *That they had six hundred Talents yearly Tribute, besides other Revenues; that they had yet left in the Castle six thousand Talents, besides great Quantities of Money and Plate belonging to the Temples, which they might use in Cases of Extremity, provided they made Restitution when the War was over: That they had between thirty and forty thousand Men, three hundred Gallies, and other Necessaries, which, if rightly apply'd, would easily make them superior.* The People were so well satisfy'd with this Account of their Affairs, that they immediately set to rigging out their Fleet, and summoning their Confederates.

But whilst they were making these necessary. Olymp.  
Preparations, the *Peloponnesian* Army enter'd 87. 2.  
*Attica* by *Oenoe* the first Frontier Garrison to- The Pello-  
wards *Bœotia*; from whence *Archidamus*, after ponnesians  
invade At-  
tica.

a fruitless Attempt to storm the Place, was forc'd to march farther into the Country. For he was charg'd with having been too remiss from the Beginning; and particularly that by this last Delay, he had given the People of *Attica* time to gather themselves into a Body, who otherwise must have fell into their Hands. So that whether he was a Favourer of the *Athenians* or no, it was not doubted but he protracted his March, in hopes they would yet come to some sort of Terms. But hearing nothing from them, he came and posted himself at *Acharnae*, the greatest Borough-Town in *Attica*, and but seven Miles from *Athens*. The Alarm was no sooner got into the City, but the People were ready to mutiny against *Pericles* for not leading them into the Field. He thought it by no means adviseable; and therefore would not so much as convene them, lest the Surprise should make them resolve upon any thing that was rash or extravagant: In-  
 somuch that *Cleon*, who was endeavouring to supplant him in his Interest with the People, reproach'd him with downright Cowardise. He chose rather to put up every thing, than to venture a Sally: But to shew, that he did not neglect his Charge, he shut up the City-Gates; plac'd sufficient Guards at all the Posts about it; sent out Parties of Horse to keep the Enemy at a distance, one of which, in a Skirmish with the *Bæotians*, was repuls'd with Loss;  
 and



and at the same time order'd out an hundred Gallies to infest the Coasts of *Peloponnesus*. *Archidamus* finding his Provisions fail, and that he could not bring the *Athenians* to a Battle, broke up his Camp at *Acbarne*, and having ravag'd the Country about it, return'd home; and the rather because the *Athenian* Fleet, in Conjunction with the Allies, was likely to make successful Descents. They landed in *Laconia*, and had taken *Metbone*, if *Brasidas* a *Spartan* had not thrown himself into the Town with a Supply, and beat them back to their Ships: For which Service he was the first in this War, who receiv'd public Applause at *Sparta*. From thence coasting along, they put in at *Elis*, where they harass'd the Country, plunder'd *Pheia*, and defeated those who oppos'd them. About the same time another Squadron of thirty Gallies, which was sent as a Guard to *Eubæa*, had the like Success against the *Locri Opuntii*. Upon the Enemies quitting *Attica*, the *Athenians* decreed, that an hundred of the best Gallies, and a thousand Talents should be set apart in case of any Invasion by Sea; and made it Capital for any Man to motion the diverting either the Ships or Mony to any other Use. They also took occasion to displace the *Æginetans*, upon pretence that they principally occasion'd the War: But the Truth is, they found this Island lay very convenient for their Affairs, and wanted it to ease their

own City, which was prodigiously overstock'd with Inhabitants. Then they drew over to their Alliance *Sitalces* King of *Thrace*, and *Perdiccas* of *Macedonia*, in order to proceed with more Vigour in those Parts, especially against *Potidea*. The Fleet still cruising about, the Forces on board it took several Towns, with the whole Island of *Cephalenia* without Opposition, and return'd home. Thus the *Athenians* being left at liberty to act offensively by Land as well as Sea, invaded *Megaris* with their whole Force, which made up the greatest Army they ever had together in one Place before. Having laid waste great part of the Country, they return'd: But constantly every Year made the same Incurfions, 'till at last they got into their Hands *Nisæa*, a strong Haven with Walls reaching up to the City of *Megara*. These were the principal Transactions of the first Campaign.

*The Funeral Solemnities.* In the Winter were solemniz'd the Funerals of the first slain in the War. The Manner of performing it, was to place the Bodies in Tents three Days before the Funeral, that their Friends might come and pay their last Respects to them. Upon the fourth Day a Coffin of Cypress was sent, one from every Tribe, to convey the Bones of their own Relations: After which went an empty cover'd Hearse in Memory of those whose Bodies could not be found. All these accompany'd with the whole Body of the People, were carry'd to be interr'd in the *Ceramics*,

*micus*, which was the public Burial-place for those who were slain in the Wars. But they who died in the Battle at *Marathon*, were more remarkably distinguish'd: They were buried in the Place where they fell, and with their Arms in their Hands. The Ceremony was concluded with one Harangue in praise of them all; which Task was at this time assign'd to *Pericles*. The main Scope of his Speech, was to infuse Courage into the Living, by celebrating the Memory of the Dead, and setting before their Eyes the Glory of dying for their Country with their Swords in their Hands, especially for a Country so glorious in all respects, as was then the Commonwealth of *Athens*. And however preposterous it might seem, for him who advis'd the War, to commemorate those who had lost their Lives in it; yet probably, never Man succeeded better in it; in so much that his Discourse upon this Occasion is a Standard in its kind, being look'd upon as one of the most artificial and florid Pieces of Antiquity. He took occasion in this Harangue; as he did in most of his others, to flatter the People. In displaying the Grandeur of the Commonwealth, he ascrib'd it chiefly to their Prudence, their Bravery and their Discipline. And in extolling the Happiness of their Constitution, he told them, They were all alike free and independent: That they were govern'd only by the Law, which extended equally to the

Rich as well as the Poor; and that the Way to Honours and Preferment was open to all indifferently, according to their Personal Merit, without any distinction of Birth or Fortune. Thus ended the first Year of the *Peloponnesian War*.

Olymp.  
87. 3.

*A great  
Plague in  
Athens.*

In the beginning of the next Summer, *Archidamus* again invaded *Attica*, with the same Number of Men as before: At which time a terrible Plague having travell'd over most Parts of the World, arriv'd at *Athens*, and took off all the Flower of its Armies both at Home and Abroad. It seiz'd them with such Violence, that they tumbled down one upon another, as they pass'd along the Streets. It was also attended with such uncommon Exhalations of Venom and Putrefaction, that the very Beasts and Birds of Prey would not touch those who dy'd of it: And in many of those who recover'd, it left such a Tincture of its Malignancy, that it struck upon their Senses; it effac'd the Notices and Memory of all the Passages of their Lives, and they knew neither themselves, nor their nearest Relations. The Circumstances of this Disease are describ'd at large by *Thucydides*, who was sick of it himself: And he observes among other Effects of it, that it introduc'd into the City a more licentious Way of Living. For the People at first had recourse to their Gods to avert that Judgment: But finding they were all alike infected, whether they worshipp'd them

them or not, and that it was generally mortal, they abandon'd themselves at once to Despair and Riot. For since they held their Lives but, as it were, by the Day, they were resolv'd to make the most of their Time and Mony. The Cause of it was generally imputed to *Pericles*, who by drawing such Numbers into the City, was thought to have corrupted the very Air. Yet tho' this was raging within, and the Enemy wasting the Country without, he was still of the same Mind as before, that they ought not to put all their Hopes upon the Issue of a Battle.

In the mean while he put to Sea with an hundred Gallies, and four thousand Foot, and three hundred Horse on board them; and being join'd by fifty Sail from *Cbios* and *Lesbos*, made an Attempt upon *Epidaurus*, but miscarry'd: And having committed what Spoil he could upon the Coasts of *Peloponnesus*, return'd home. However this prov'd a Diversion to the *Peloponnesians*, who, partly to defend their Territories, and partly for fear of the Infection, quitted *Attica* after almost forty Days Incurfion. The Forces employ'd by *Pericles* were now sent into *Tbrace*: But the Plague swept off so many of them before *Potidea*, that they did nothing considerable.

These fruitless Expeditions serv'd to incense, and terrify the People; who being almost crush'd with the Sword, Pestilence, and Depreda-

tions all at a time, began to clamour violently against *Pericles*, as the sole Author of all their Calamities; and in the mean while sent to make Overtures at *Sparta*, but they were not accepted. *Pericles* finding them thus dispirited, assembled them, in order to encourage them to the War, by justifying his own Management. But his Harangue to them, howsoever forcible by those masterly and engaging Strokes he gave it, had little effect upon their Minds, who were sensible of nothing but their Misfortunes.

*Pericles in  
Disgrace.*

It made some slight Impression on them for the present, and they seem'd well-dispos'd towards the War: But their Fears and their Ill-humour soon returning, they fined him in a great Sum, and took away his Command. However, when they found they could not do without him, he was some time after restor'd, and with a more absolute Power than he had before.

The same Summer *Cnemus* the *Spartan* Admiral put to Sea with an hundred Gallies, and made a Descent upon *Zacynthus*: But the Inhabitants continuing firm to the *Athenian* Interest, he only ravag'd the Island, and return'd. After which *Aristæus* the *Corinthian*, and some *Lacedæmonians* intending a Voyage to *Persia*, to procure Money of the King towards carrying on the War, went by the way to *Sitalces* King of *Thrace*, soliciting him to break with the *Athenians*, and march with his Army to the Relief of *Polidea*. But the *Athenian* Ambassadors

dors prevailing with the King to deliver them up, they were sent from thence to *Athens*, and thrown into deep Pits without any Form of Justice. This was said to be done in Return to the *Lacedemonians*, who had given the like Treatment to some *Athenian* Merchants taken off of *Peloponnesus*: But the Design was laid more particularly against *Aristæus*, who was charg'd as the Author of all the Commotions in *Thrace*. This Winter *Potidæa* was surrendered; and tho' the Garrison was reduc'd to that Extremity for want of Provisions, that they eat one another, yet they obtain'd such tolerable Terms, that the *Athenians* who commanded there were question'd for not making them Prisoners at Discretion. The *Athenians* planted a Colony of their own in that City, after the Siege of it had stood them in two thousand Talents. This Action concluded the second Year of the War.

The *Peloponnesians* open'd the third Campaign <sup>Olymp.</sup> with an Attempt upon *Platæa*; whose Inhabi-<sup>87. 4.</sup> tants sent to expostulate with them, urging the Privileges granted to them by *Pausanias*, when he defeated the *Persians* in their Territory. But they could obtain nothing more than a Suspension of Arms, 'till they could send an Account of their Affairs to *Athens*; from whence they receiv'd such firm Assurances of being reliev'd, that they sent word to *Archidamus*, *They were ready to undergo the last Extremity of War,*

Platæa be-  
sieg'd. *since to renounce their Confederacy with Athens,*  
*was what they never could consent to.* Upon  
 which *Archidamus* invest'd the City, and rais'd  
 an *Agger* or Mount, to command the Walls.  
 The *Platæans* rais'd their Wall in proportion;  
 and at the same time, by an Hole at the Bot-  
 tom, drew great Quantities of Earth from the  
 Mount: Which being discover'd, they im-  
 proved the Stratagem by carrying a Mine to it  
 from the Town; so that still as the Wall was  
 heighten'd, the Mount sunk; and for their  
 farther Security, they run up another Wall  
 within. The *Peloponnesians* apply'd their En-  
 gines of Battery to the Walls: But the Defen-  
 dants had several Contrivances by Beams let  
 down with Ropes, to evade the Force of them.  
 So that this Method also proving ineffectual,  
 they had recourse to Fire; and by throwing  
 in vast Quantities of Fagots, with Brimstone,  
 Pitch, and such like combustible Matter, they  
 burnt great part of the Town. But the Flame  
 being at last extinguish'd, they were forc'd to  
 make a formal Siege of it: In order to which  
 they inclos'd the City with a Wall, which was  
 fenced with a Ditch on each Side. But it be-  
 ing late in the Year, they drew off the Main of  
 their Army, leaving only the *Bæotians* with  
 some others, to maintain their Works, and keep  
 the City block'd up. This is the first Descrip-  
 tion we meet with of any thing like a regular  
 Siege among the *Grecians*; those which had  
 hitherto



hitherto been carry'd on, being very artless, and consequently tedious, and expensive. Their common Method, when they endeavour'd to possess themselves of a Town, was to attempt it by Storm, surrounding it with their whole Army, and attacking it in all Quarters at once; and if this prov'd ineffectual, they either desisted from the Enterprize, or only renew'd the Assault after the same rude manner. Not but they had a Notion in the *Trojan* and *Theban* Wars, of something like the *Battering-Ram*, *Scaling-Ladders*, and other Engines; the Invention whereof they very probably deriv'd, with the rest of their Knowledge, from the *Eastern* Countries, where they seem to have been understood even in *Moses's* Time, and made use of by several of the *Jewish* Kings. And if they did not receive the same Improvement in *Greece*, proportionably to their other military Discipline, it may be attributed chiefly to the Aversion the *Lacedæmonians* express'd to this way of Conquering, as not agreeable to their Notions of a generous Valour, which they made to consist only in pitch'd Battles. But when they found the other *Grecian* Cities would not follow their Example, of leaving themselves open to all Invaders without the Defence of Walls, they were better convinc'd of the Inconveniencies, into which their Ignorance in Sieges was likely to betray them, and apply'd themselves to this necessary part of the Service, in order to  
put

put them upon a more equal foot with their Neighbours. So that from the time of this War we may date the Art of Fortifying and Attacking.

During this Siege, the *Athenians* were engag'd with the *Chalcidians* of *Thrace*, and the *Bottiaeans* of *Macedonia*: But they being reliev'd from *Olynthus*, and other Places, fought them, and overcame them, compelling them to retire with their broken Forces to *Potidaea*, and from thence home to *Athens*. However this Disgrace was soon reveng'd at Sea by *Phormio* the *Athenian* Admiral; who lying before *Naupactus*, fell in with forty seven *Peloponnesian* Sail, with Land Forces on board them bound upon an Expedition against the *Acarnanians*, took twelve, and dispers'd the rest. The *Peloponnesians* having made great Preparations, ventur'd upon another Engagement; but by Confusion, and Mismanagement, the Advantage was again on the *Athenians* Side. Before the Fleets were laid up, *Cnemus*, *Brasidas*, and the other *Peloponnesian* Admirals resolv'd to make an Attempt upon the *Piræus*, which was very slightly guarded, because the *Athenians* being Masters at Sea, were under no Apprehensions on that Side. In order to their Design, they went over Land to *Megara*, and at *Nisæa* the Port-Town lanch'd forty Ships: But their Hearts failing them as to the Enterprize of the *Piræus*, and the Wind withal being contrary, they contented themselves

*Phormio*  
victorious  
at Sea.

selves with falling upon three Guard-ships, that lay at *Budorus* a Promontory of *Salamis*: Having taken them, they enter'd *Salamis*, and plunder'd great part of the Island. The *Athenians* discover'd the Beacons on fire; and this put them into a greater Consternation, than any thing that had happen'd during the War: But when the *Peloponnesians* found they had taken the Alarm, they retreated.

In the Beginning of this Winter, *Sitalces* King of *Thrace* made war against *Perdiccas* King of *Macedonia*, and wasted his Country with an Army of an hundred and fifty thousand Men. The *Macedonians* were forc'd to shelter themselves within their Towns; and this numerous Army struck such a Terror into the other Neighbouring Nations, that the *Grecians* themselves were afraid they had call'd in such a Confederate as was likely to become their Master. *Phormio* the *Athenian* Admiral having settled Affairs in *Acarmania*, return'd victorious with his Spoils to *Athens*; and thus ended the third Year of the War with various Success on both Sides.

The Loss of *Pericles* was none of the least The Death of Pericles. Misfortunes that fell on *Athens* during this Campaign. He dy'd in the sixth Month of the Year of the Plague, as *Plutarch* says; tho' it was after a lingering manner, more in the nature of a Consumption. As he was drawing on, his Friends, who sat by him, and thought him not sensible, were engag'd in a Discourse about his

His Character.

his Virtue and Authority, and the Number of his Victories, he having erected no less than nine Trophies as Commander in Chief. He gave great Attention to what pass'd, and made a sudden Reply, *That he wonder'd, they should value him so much upon those Things, which Fortune had made common to him with others, and pass by that which was of far greater moment, that none of his Fellow-Citizens had ever put on Mourning upon his Account.* And indeed it is very extraordinary, what is recorded of him, that one who was engag'd in such a long variety of Affairs, and had Men of the most opposite Tempers to deal with, *should never employ his Power, or gratify his Passion to any Man's Hurt; or never treat an Enemy otherwise, than as one who in time might become a Friend.* As to the Public, it redounds particularly to his Glory, that when he had foil'd his Rivals, and got the Power intirely into his Hands, he stopt just there, where others would have been most likely to proceed. But he was certainly of a great and generous Spirit; he acted upon a Principle of Honour and Equity, and seem'd to value himself more upon leading the People of *Athens* by the Force of his Merit and Eloquence, than by any thing of arbitrary Sway: So that that Power, which would otherwise have been branded with the Name of Tyranny, prov'd, as he manag'd it, the mildest, and yet the strongest Support of the Government. In his military Conduct, however

ever warm he appear'd in advising a War, yet when it came to Action, he was very cautious and deliberate, not caring to engage, but where he could almost warrant the Success. And this turn'd very much to his Reputation, being interpreted as his Tenderness of exposing his Fellow-Citizens; to whom he would often say, *That he for his part would do what he could to make them Immortal.* At another time, when he had much ado to restrain them from Action, he told them, *They must not expect, that Men, like Trees, when they were cut off, would shoot up again.* In short, his Experience had taught him to depend more upon Conduct and Stratagem, than an hardy Valour. And tho' he had often been engag'd in War, he made it chiefly subservient to his other Designs, choosing it, not so much to make the *Athenians* terrible abroad, as great at home. His principal Care and Study, was to sit and direct at the Helm; wherein he succeeded so well, that he held the Administration for forty Years; and that in the most flourishing time of the Commonwealth. This long uncontrolable Sway of his, is to be attributed to nothing more, than to his *Art of Speaking*; by which, like a rapid Stream, he bore down every thing that oppos'd him, and triumph'd over the Peoples Passions and Affections, which *Plutarch* calls the *Stops and Keys* of the Soul, and which at that time in *Athens*, requir'd an extraordinary skilful Hand to touch them. The  
In-

Influence he had over the Minds of his Fellow-Citizens, is said to have changed the very Essence of the Government; which, tho' it still retain'd the Name of a *Democracy*, was in effect, the Rule of one Principal Man, through the Power of his Eloquence. Not but the Force of his Language was also supported by the Opinion the People had of his Integrity. That he was above all Considerations of Money, appears in nothing more, than that he made no Addition to his private Estate: And tho' he took upon him to dispose of prodigious Sums of the public Money, he laid it out chiefly to the Advantage and Ornament of the State; and whilst he kept it circulating, did not drain the Channel, tho' he diverted the Course. We may form a great *Idea* of him even from the Censure of those who seem to bear hardest upon him; *That the main of his Character agreed with that of Pisistratus, only with this Difference, that he maintain'd his Tyranny with Arms, but Pericles without them.* The Loss of this great Man appear'd every Day more considerable, when his Successors, who were for the most part equal in Merit, and Rivals in Dignity, wanting sufficient Power to rein up the People with an absolute Hand, were oblig'd to manage them more remissly, to sooth, and flatter them into Obedience: And thus whilst every one was promoting his own Interest, the Care of the Public was suspended.

About

About Harvest-time the *Peloponnesians* inva-<sup>Olymp.</sup>  
ded *Attica* a third time; but having done <sup>88. 1.</sup>  
little more than destroy'd the Corn, return'd  
home. At the time of their Incurſion, all *Leſ-* *Lesbos re-*  
*bos*, except *Meſſymna*, revolted from the *Athe-* *vols.*  
*nians*; who thinking what a conſiderable Acceſ-  
ſion this would be to the Enemy, pretended at  
firſt not to believe it, in hopes by that means  
to keep the Inhabitants from declaring them-  
ſelves. But when they found the greateſt part  
of the Iſland had thrown themſelves into *Mity-*  
*lene* their Capital, in order to make further Pre-  
parations, they mann'd out forty Gallies to ſur-  
prize them at a Feaſt in honour of *Apollo*, where  
they were to be aſſembled without the City;  
which the *Leſbians* having notice of, prepar'd  
to receive them; and whiſt they were parly-  
ing with the *Athenians*, ſent to *Lacedæmon* for  
ſpeedy Relief. The *Spartans* referr'd the Am-  
baſſadors to the general Meeting of the *Grecians*  
at the Celebration of this *Olympiad*; where, after  
the Solemnity was over, they enter'd into a long  
Detail of their good Intentions to the *Spartans*;  
and began with juſtifying themſelves, *That they*  
*did not come to them as Deſerters and Traitors to*  
*their Friends and Country. That their Treaty*  
*with the Athenians extended no farther than to*  
*join with them againſt the Barbarians; but that*  
*the Uſe they had made of it on their part was to*  
*oppreſs their Allies, and enſlave Greece. That*  
*they had continued the Leſbians in their Alliance,*  
*only*

*only to assist them in carrying on those Designs; and that, notwithstanding their present Shew of Moderation towards them, they had good reason to apprehend they should, in the end, fall a Sacrifice to their Ambition, and share the same Fate with their Neighbours. That upon these Motives, they had quitted their Engagements with Athens, and had declar'd themselves on the Side of Sparta. That the doing it so suddenly, before they had made any Preparations, might be consider'd more as an Act of Generosity in them, than of Prudence: But that this ought to induce the Spartans to take them the more readily into their Protection. That their succouring them in their present Exigency, would encourage others to come in to them, and would take off the Reproach they lay under, of abandoning those who sued to them for Protection. They added, That the Lesbians were capable of doing them great Service, particularly by their Shipping, which they so much wanted. And this, they told them, was the most seasonable Opportunity of attacking the Athenians, when their Forces were so much diminish'd by the War and Pestilence, when their Fleet was divided, and their Treasury exhausted. These things were urg'd with so much Reason, and insinuated with so much Artifice by the Ambassadors, that the Lesbians were now easily admitted into the Confederacy, tho' they had been deny'd it in the Beginning of the War. Their Ports being at this time block'd up by the Athenians, they had immediate Supplies decreed*



creed them: And another Expedition into *Asia* was resolv'd on; in order to which, the *Spartans* were ready at the *Isthmus*. But their Allies not coming up, and thirty *Athenian* Ships at the same time harassing the Coast of *Peloponnesus*, they were forc'd to return. The *Mitylenians* in the mean while attempted *Metbymna*, but miscarry'd; and the *Athenians*, to prevent these Excursions, sent fresh Supplies, which block'd them by Land as well as Sea. The *Athenians* had this Year a great number of Ships employ'd in different Parts, amounting in the whole to two hundred and fifty Sail: And tho' they had as many, or perhaps more in the beginning of the War; yet this Fleet was the most complete, and in the best Order of any they had put to Sea. But the Charge of fitting it out, together with the Soldiers pay, had so exhausted the public Treasure, that they were forc'd to assess themselves, in order to carry on the Siege of *Mitylene*. This Tax amounted to two hundred Talents, besides what they exacted from their Confederates by way of Tribute, which, tho' it was generally comply'd with, the *Carians* refus'd to pay, and *Lyficles*, who was sent to collect it, with most of his Retinue, was kill'd by them. In the Winter scarce any thing of moment happen'd, except that the *Platæans* having been besieg'd all this while, and extremely press'd for want of Provisions, above two hundred of them prepar'd Ladders,

proportioning their Length by the Number, and Breadth of the Bricks in the Enceint's Wall, and passing their Works by favour of a stormy Night, escap'd to *Athens*.

Olymp.  
88. 2.

Early in the Spring the *Peloponnesians* fell again into *Attica*, under the Conduct of *Clamenes*, Uncle and Guardian to *Pausanias* the young Spartan King, and destroy'd every thing that had escap'd them in their former Incursions. *Alcidas* at the same time went with forty Gallies to the Relief of *Mitylene*: But he loiter'd so long in cruising about *Peloponnesus*, that the *Lesbians* despair'd of receiving any Succours; and being otherwise distress'd for want of Provisions, *Salutibus* the Spartan Governor, who had hitherto kept them disarm'd, now gave them Arms, with an Intent to make a Sally. But instead of that, they threaten'd, that unless they who had Corn, would bring it out, and divide it, they would make their Composition, and deliver up the Place to the Enemy. The Magistrates finding that they would not be control'd, and fearing lest they themselves should be excluded, did, by a general Consent, treat with *Paches* the *Athenian* General, and surrender'd to him in a manner at Discretion. For the best Terms they could obtain, were, that he should spare their Lives, 'till he should receive Orders from *Athens* how to dispose of them. But the Authors of the Revolt expecting no Mercy, fled to the *Altars*, from whence they were

The Lesbians surrendered at Discretion.

were taken, and convey'd to *Tenedos*, 'till some farther Resolution should be taken concerning them. *Perthes* in the mean while took in several other little Places; and then sent the Prisoners to *Athens*, where they were put to death; and with them *Salathus*, tho' among other Offers for his Pardon, he promis'd to procure the raising the Siege of *Plataea*. Besides the Execution of above a thousand *Lesbians* at *Athens*, a Decree was made, and sent to *Mitylene*, to do Justice on the rest of the Inhabitants, and to make Slaves of the Women and Children. But the *Athenians* immediately after repenting of their Cruelty, the Matter came again the next Day into Debate: Where *Cleon*, who was grown extremely popular upon the Death of *Pericles*, and was the chief Author of this Decree, still persisted in his Opinion, *That it was necessary to make an Example of them*. He urg'd, *That if they, who were left to the quiet Enjoyment of their own Laws and Liberty, and being Islanders well provided with Shipping, and therefore safe from any Attempts of the Enemy, were suffer'd to revolt without Punishment, what would not the rest of their Confederates attempt, who obey'd them purely by Compulsion, and had Reason to look upon Athens, as no better than a Tyranny erected over them?* He told them, *That upon whatever Grounds they valu'd their Constitution, they ought not to trifle with their Laws; for that ill ones well observ'd, were better than good ones,*

that were despis'd, or neglected :... That a well-meaning and regular Ignorance was preferable to a disorderly and inconstant Knowledge : And in short, That nothing was of more dangerous Consequence to a State, than Pity. But *Diodorus*, who had before oppos'd him in this Affair, prevail'd with the People to countermand their Orders, by sending another Galley to *Mitylene*, which arriv'd just as they were going to be put in Execution. However their Shipping was seiz'd, their Walls raz'd, and a tenth Part of their Lands being dedicated to their Gods, the rest was divided among the *Albenians*; who, instead of their yearly Contribution, rented it out to them again.

The same Summer *Nicias* the *Albenian* took and fortify'd *Minoa*, an Island over-against *Megaris*, for the better Security of those Coasts.

*Platæa*  
*surrendered*

The *Platæans* at last worn out with a long and vigorous Defence, surrender'd at Discretion; and were kept 'till five Men were deputed from *Sparta*, in the nature of Judges, to proceed against them. But they, instead of exhibiting a formal Accusation, only put this single Question to them, *Whether they had done any Service to the Lacedæmonians, and their Confederates, during this War?* They avoided answering directly, but urg'd their Services at large, not only as to the common Cause, but also to the *Lacedæmonians* in particular, when they were almost destroy'd by the Earthquake, and the Rebellion

bellion of their *Helots*. *That if they did not continue in the Alliance, it was their own Fault, since they first referr'd them to the Athenians, to whom they had ever since been oblig'd in Honour and Justice to adhere.* They press'd their Case with a becoming Gravity, without being arrogant or dejected; and expostulated with them in very pathetic Terms. *Behold, said they, the Monuments of your Ancestors, to whom we annually pay the Honours due to their Memory. Will you now give up their Ashes to their Murderers? To the Thebans, who fought against them at Plataea? Will you enslave a Country, wherein Greece recover'd its Liberty? Will you destroy the Temples of the Gods, wherein the Grecians implor'd their Protection and Assistance against the Persians? And will you abolish the Sacrifices which were instituted by their Founders?* They told them in short, *That they had submitted themselves to them only, and not to the Thebans; and insisted on it, that if they were not inclin'd to shew them Mercy, which as the common Saviours and Deliverers of the rest of Greece they had reason to expect from them, they ought at least to put them in the Condition they were at the time of their surrendering, and not to leave them in the Power of their mortal Enemies.* But the *Thebans* stuck so close to them, and turn'd their Arguments so forcibly upon them, that the Judges only repeated the same Question to them severally, *Whether they had done any Service to the Spartans, and their Confederates.*

during the War? And upon their answering, *They had not*, order'd them to be executed to the Number of two hundred *Plataeans*, and twenty five *Athenians*. What the *Lacedaemonians* alledg'd to justify their Proceedings, was, that they had propos'd to the *Plataeans* in the Beginning of the War to stand neuter; and that this Offer not being accepted, left them at liberty to treat them with the utmost Severity. They were at the same time glad to take this Opportunity of gratifying the *Thebans*; which the *Plataeans* were so sensible of, that in their Defence they reproach'd the *Spartans* with sacrificing their Justice, to keep up the Confederacy. *If you measure Justice by your Interest*, said they, *you will give us reason to believe your Interest is dearer to you, than your Glory*. And indeed it does not appear, that the *Lacedaemonians* still kept up to that rigorous Principle of Honour and Equity, upon which so great a Share of their Merit was founded; but that, during the whole Course of this War, they gave way to Passion and Interest, as much as any of their Neighbours. It is true, the *Athenians* had just before set them a terrible Example in the Case of the *Lesbians*; and their Proceeding in this Summary way against the *Plataeans*, seems to have been as well by way of Reprisal, as to oblige the *Thebans*. *Athens* and *Sparta* were now thoroughly exasperated against each other. Both of them at the same time carry'd it with an high

high band to their Confederates and Dependents, and were very severe to such of them as deserted their Service: Which was the more justifiable, because great Industry was used to seduce and alienate them from their respective Principals. The War was carry'd on more in this insinuating and undermining way, than in open fighting: And therefore in the course of it, they who were executed in cold Blood as Rebels, were in some proportion equal to the Number of those who fell by the Sword. Besides this severe Sentence, the Women were also adjudg'd to Slavery, the Lands set to Farm for ten Years to the *Tribes*: and the next Year the City was utterly demolish'd, and lay in Ruins for many Years.

Such was the Fate of the *Platæans*, after they had continued ninety three Years in Alliance with *Athens*; tho' they certainly deserv'd a much milder Treatment, not only for their actual Service against the *Phrygians*, but likewise for their having alienated their Lands, and annex'd them to *Attica*, because the Oracle had advis'd *That the Battle of Platæa should be fought on Athenian Ground*. It was this generous Instance of their Zeal for the common Cause, that had distinguish'd them so much from the rest of the Confederates. They were, by a public Decree, to be consider'd as an Order of Men set apart, in the Nature of a Priesthood, to solemnize the annual Commemoration

of that Victory, and to offer up Prayers and Sacrifices for the general Safety and Prosperity of *Greece*; and their Persons were to be held sacred and inviolable. This they laid great Stress upon, and made it a principal Plea in their Defence, terming themselves *Sanctuary Men*. But the *Spartans* could not forgive their long and steady Adherence to *Athens*; and being further incens'd against them by the *Thebans*, they shew'd no Regard to their past Services, nor to the Immunities they were to enjoy as the Reward of them.

The *Peloponnesians*, who went to the Relief of *Lesbos*, finding the Island lost beyond Recovery, had Thoughts of securing some Town upon the Coasts of *Asia*, in order to draw *Ionia* over to the Confederacy: or, if that Project fail'd, to remove the Seat of the War thither: But it being oppos'd by *Alcidas*, as too hazardous an Undertaking, and *Paches* at the same time being in Pursuit of them, they made the best of their way home. But before they

*A great* put. into Harbour, hearing of a great Sedition.  
*Sedition at* at *Corcyra*, they made thither, in hopes, by  
*Corcyra.* the Division of the Island, to become Masters of it. They found the Contest got to a great height, between the chief Men, and the Commons; the latter of which having call'd in the *Athenians* to their Assistance, the *Lacedaemonians* took part with the Magistracy; and beat the *Corcyraean*, and *Athenian* Navy, but durst



durst not attempt the City, where the People had the better; who being still strengthen'd by the Arrival of sixty Sail more from *Athens*, committed the most horrible Outrages, butchering one another at the Altars, without distinction of Age, or Quality, Sex, or Blood. The City was one continu'd Scene of Murder; Death was to be seen in all its Shapes; and those who would have stood neuter, were made a Sacrifice to both Parties. Of all the Factions and Innovations which had happen'd in *Greece*, this is the first Instance of things being carry'd to the last Extremity; insomuch, that a *Corcyraan Sedition* came to be us'd proverbially. This Example had also a fatal Influence: on several other Cities, which, upon the slightest Differences between the Nobility and People, were immediately for calling in their respective Patriots, the *Athenians* and *Spartans*, who, tho' they seem'd to protect and assist them, were willing enough to let them worry and weaken one another, that they might be the less in a Condition to intermeddle in the Contest between these two Republics for the Sovereignty of the Whole. With this View, they secretly encourag'd these intestine Commotions, as the best means of advancing their own Affairs: And *Thucydides*, in this respect, compares the lesser States of *Greece* to little Brooks, which serve chiefly to swell the Current of the great Rivers.

*Sicily*

Commoti-  
ons in Si-  
cily.

*Sicily* also at this time began to be in motion, upon a Quarrel between *Syracuse*, and *Leontini*. These two Cities form'd their Confederacies, in order to carry on a vigorous War: And the *Leontines*, upon a Pretence of Consanguinity, (they being originally *Ionians*) drew over the *Athenians* to their Party. They were glad to have a Footing in the Island upon any Terms, both to hinder the transporting of Corn from thence to *Peloponnesus*, and to see if there were any Possibility of subduing it for themselves. This was what they had an Eye upon in *Pericles's* Time, and what he found particularly to have caution'd them against, when, in advising the *Peloponnesian* War, he grounded their Certainty of Success upon their not endeavouring to extend their Conquests, or grasp at more than they were able to manage. However they sent thither but twenty Gallies, which, in conjunction with ten more from *Rhagium* in *Italy*, harass'd the *Ælian* Islands near *Sicily*. In the Winter the Plague, after some Intermission, broke out afresh, and swept away such Multitudes, that the *Athenians* suffer'd more by that, than by the War.

Olymp.  
88. 3.

The *Peloponnesians* began the sixth Campaign with Preparations for another Irruption into *Attica*; but were deterr'd from it by the frequent Earthquakes which happen'd in those Parts. The *Athenians* at the same time set out two Fleets, one of thirty Sail under *Demosthenes*,

to

to cruise about *Peloponnesus*, the other of sixty, to make a Descent upon the Island *Melos*. *Nicias*, who commanded this latter, did nothing very considerable in *Melos*; from whence he made to the opposite Continent, where being join'd by those which were left in *Atbens*, he defeated some straggling Forces in *Boeotia*, and return'd. *Demosthenes* invaded the *Ætolians*, at first with good Success; but they having Intelligence of his March, and being got into a Body to receive him, he was routed, and lost the Flower of his Army. Being afraid to return home before he had done something to cover this Disgrace, he found out an Opportunity of relieving *Naupactus*, which was in great danger of being taken; and then joining with the *Acarmanians*, defeated the *Ambraciots*, who were abandon'd by their *Peloponnesian* Confederates. This Victory brought him again into Favour, and procur'd a Peace between the *Ambraciots* and *Acarmanians*.

The next Year began, according to Custom, Olymp. with a Descent into *Attica* under *Agis* the Son <sup>88. 4</sup> of *Archidamus*. The War in *Sicily* being still on foot, the *Athenians*, to bring it to an Issue, sent forty Gallies more under *Eurymedon*, and *Sophocles*, with Orders to touch at *Corcyra*, and see if there were yet any Remains of the Sedition. To these was join'd *Demosthenes*, whose Business was to infest the Coasts of *Peloponnesus*. In his Way he open'd his Design of surprising

*Pylus  
taken,*

*and de-  
fended.*

prising *Pylus*, a ragged Promontory of *Messenia*, with a small barren Island lying before it, and within that a Creek, which was capable of making a very good Harbour. His Collegues not consenting to the Project, it happen'd, that they were forc'd in thither by Strefs of Weather: And the Soldiers of their own Accord, when they saw how advantageously the Place was situated, set to fortifying it with the utmost Diligence, and finish'd their Works in six Days; after which the other Captains proceeding on their Voyage, left *Demosthenes* with five Gallies to secure it. The *Lacedaemonians* knowing it to be a Place of too great Importance to be neglected, immediately quitted *Attica*, and drew down their whole Force to recover it; part of which they threw into *Sphacteria* the Island over-against it. Then they block'd up the Haven, and with the rest assaulted the Fort with great Fury both by Sea and Land; but were vigorously repuls'd by *Demosthenes*, who having maintain'd his Ground for two Days, on the third was reliev'd by the Fleet, which put back again upon Notice of his Danger. These Gallies made an Offer of Fight in the open Sea; which not being accepted by the *Peloponnesians*, they rush'd into the Harbour, broke and sunk many of the Enemy, took five, and forc'd the rest on Shore.

*Pylus* being by this means secur'd, and the *Spartans* in the Island at the same time closely besieg'd,

besieg'd, there came in great Numbers of the *Peloponnesians*, and among them some of the *Spartan* Magistrates; who seeing no Possibility of rescuing their Countrymen in the Island, but upon Terms, demanded a Truce, in order to treat of a general Peace at *Athens*; which accordingly was granted upon the Delivery of their Ships to them as a Security, 'till such time as their Ambassadors should return. They <sup>The Lacedæmonians sue for</sup> being arriv'd at *Athens*, represented to the People, *How much for their Reputation it would be, Peace.* to grant a Peace at this time, and to a State, which had so lately the Power both of Peace and War in its own Hands; and then among other Advantages, gave a hint, *That if there were but a right Understanding between these two Cities, the rest of Greece would fall in of course, and readily acquiesce under their joint Dominion.* This was such a Concession, as the *Lacedæmonians* had never before consented to, and argued their Affairs to be at a very low Ebb, when they were content to forfeit their Title of the *Deliverers* of *Greece*, only to share in the Tyranny, or rather to assist their Rivals in the Oppression of it. However, *Cleon* finding them so complying, insisted on it as a Preliminary of the Treaty, That those in the Island *Sphæstoria* should be deliver'd up as Prisoners, for whose sake the Treaty itself was set on foot; and made other such exorbitant Demands, that the *Spartan* Ambassadors could not for Shame accept them.

So

*Their Proposals rejected.*

So that they returning without Success, the Truce was expir'd, and the *Peloponnesians* demanded their sixty Ships, which they had given up to the *Athenian* Captains. But the *Athenians* made a frivolous Pretence, that the Truce was broke, and it being one main Article of it, *That if it were broke in any one Point, it should be void in all*, they kept the Ships as forfeited.

The War being renew'd on both Sides, was carry'd on with great Vigour against *Sphacteria*, which holding out longer than was expected, the *Athenians* began to repent of their Obstinacy about a Peace. Which as it stuck chiefly upon *Cleon*, he told them, That the forcing the Island was a more feasible thing than it was represented; and that if he were to command there, he could do it himself. The People immediately took him at his word; and *Nicias*, who was nam'd for the Command, very readily gave it up to him, as well to get rid of an Expedition that he did by no means like, as to throw the Disgrace of a Miscarriage in it upon his Rival. *Cleon* found he had overshot himself, and would have recanted, urging several things to excuse his accepting the Commission: But the more he declin'd it, the more it was press'd upon him. When he found there was no way of getting off from that which was his own Proposal, he resum'd his first Air of Confidence, and declar'd, That he would in twenty Days time bring those of the Island Prisoners

soners to *Athens*, or die in the Attempt: But the People were so well acquainted with his Manner, that it occasion'd a general Laugh in the Assembly. However, he acquitted himself beyond Expectation, and made his Words good.

*Demosthenes* being join'd in Commission with *Sphacteria* him, they landed in the Island, surpris'd the Out-taken. Guards, and having dispatch'd them, press'd on to the main Attack, which was sustain'd by both Sides with great Vigour and Obstinacy, 'till at length the *Athenians* prevail'd, and drove the Enemy towards the heart of the Island; and still gaining Ground, pursu'd them to the extreme Parts of it, where the *Spartans* had possess'd themselves of a strong Fortress upon an Hill, which had a very difficult Ascent. Here they stood upon their Defence; and after a furious Engagement, which continu'd the greatest part of the Day, the Captain of a Body of *Messenians*, who came to the Assistance of the *Athenians*, discover'd a secret winding Passage to the top of the Hill, where it commanded the Fort, and taking a strong Detachment with him, pour'd down upon the Enemy with great Impetuosity; and the *Athenians* renewing the Attack at the same time on the other Parts of the Fort, the *Spartans* were distress'd on all Sides, and being quite dispirited and weary'd out, surrender'd at Discretion: The surprising them in this manner, was much the same

same Stratagem, as the *Persians* made use of at *Thermopyla*: And it was generally expected, that this Body of *Spartans* should have stood it out like those under *Leonidas*, and have dy'd Sword in Hand. Upon this Occasion, one of the Prisoners was ask'd in an insulting way, *Whether those who were slain, were valiant Men?* His Answer was, *That an Arrow would be a thing of great value, if it knew how to distinguish a valiant Man from a Coward.* But it was not *Cleon's* Drift to make a thorough Slaughter of them; he chose rather to fulfil his Promise in carrying them Prisoners to *Athens*. For this reason there were no more than an hundred and twenty eight kill'd out of four hundred and twenty, which was the original Number of *Spartans* in the Island. The rest were sent on board the Gallies to *Athens*; where they kept them as Hostages for their Security against *Sparta*; with an Intent to put them to Death, in case their Countrymen should renew their Incurfions into *Attica*. The *Spartans*, instead of acting offensively, would gladly have come to any reasonable Accommodation; and they made pressing Instances to *Athens* for the Restitution of *Pylus*, and the release of their Men: But the *Athenians* were too much elated upon the Success of this Enterprize, to hearken to any Terms. And that which made them more impracticable at this time, was, that they had just defeated a good Body of *Corinthians* in the *Isthmus*. *Pylus* was garrison'd



garrison'd by the *Messenians* of *Naupactus*, it being their native Country: And as they were long profess'd Enemies to *Sparta*, they not only infested and ravag'd *Laconia* themselves, but harbour'd and encourag'd all such as were ill-affected to it.

From *Pylus* the Fleet went forward again to *Corcyra*; and joining with them in the City, forc'd the Exiles, who had retir'd to the Hills, and from thence infested the Country, to surrender, and remain Prisoners, till Orders came from *Athens* how to dispose of them. But in case any one of them offer'd to make his Escape, they were all to lose the Benefit of the Treaty. The other *Corcyraens* fearing the *Athenians* would not do Justice on them, secretly encourag'd some to fly; and thus the Conditions being broken, they were all deliver'd up to the *Corcyraens*; by whom some of them were cruelly put to Death, by running a sort of *Gantlet* between their Spears; to prevent which, the rest became their own Executioners with Arrows, Ropes, and such other Instruments as they had at hand. This put a final Period to the Sedition: And from thence the *Athenians* arriving in *Sicily*, whither they were principally bound, prosecuted the War in those Parts, but did not meet with the Success, they promis'd themselves from that Expedition.

The next Summer the *Athenians* acting offensively, *Nicias* with a good Fleet surpris'd several garrisons at *Olympus*. 89. 1.

*A Peace  
in Sicily.*

garrison'd Places; among which was *Cythera* an Island of great Importance, and *Tilyra*, the Inhabitants of which latter being the *Æginetans*, whom the *Lacedæmonians* had taken under their Protection, were, upon account of their long Enmity with *Athens*, most of them put to Death. The *Grecian* Cities in *Sicily* were at this time inclinable to a Peace; which was accordingly concluded at the Persuasion of *Hermocrates* a *Syracusan*, who convinc'd them of the *Athenian* Designs, *That they lay hovering about them, rather as Spies than Confederates, and only waited an Opportunity, when their Power should be sufficiently broken by their Divisions, to seize the whole Island.* And this Opinion the *Athenians* themselves confirm'd, when finding they had no Pretence to keep their footing in these Parts, they banish'd two of their Admirals, and fin'd a third for not opposing the Treaty. It was indeed alledged, that they were bought off. But as nothing was more frequent among the Rivals in the Peoples Favour, than when things went amiss, to accuse one another of Bribery, their Punishment proceeded rather from the Peevishness of the State, which being blown up by a constant Glut of Prosperity, thought no Enterprize too difficult to accomplish, but rather that they lost every thing they did not attempt.

*Sciss at  
Megara.*

There having been a great Faction in *Megara*, by which several of the Nobility were expell'd,

expell'd, the Citizens, to unite against their common Danger from the *Athenians*, who made continual Inroads into their Territory, thought of recalling their Exiles. But some resolv'd rather than they would consent to that, to deliver up the City to the *Athenians*; who accordingly came, but were frustrated in their Design: However they invested *Nisæa* the Port-Town, and took it; and hop'd by that Means to make another more successful Attempt upon the City. *Brasidas* in the mean while, who was levying Forces for an Expedition into *Thrace*, march'd to the Relief of *Megara*, which kept itself Neuter, till either the *Lacedemonians*, or *Athenians* got the better; and when the latter declin'd fighting, open'd its Gates to the *Lacedemonians* as Conquerors. Upon this the Outlaws were restor'd, having first taken an Oath not to revive any thing of past Injuries: But when they had got the Power into their Hands, they apprehended an hundred of the adverse Party, obliging the People to condemn, and put them to Death: And then taking the Government upon them, continu'd it a long time after in the Nature of an Oligarchy.

Things being thus settled in *Megara*, *Brasidas* proceeded on his March into *Thrace*, being invited to it by the great Assurances he receiv'd from *Perdiccas* King of *Macedonia*, who also on his Part began to be very apprehensive

of the Confederacies, the *Atbenians* had form'd in those Quarters. As *Brasidas* took his Way through *Thessaly*, he was in great Danger of disputing his Passage, for marching through the Territories of those Princes without Leave first obtain'd. However these Difficulties being pass'd, several Towns of *Thrace* came over to him upon Promise of their Liberty, and being govern'd by their own Laws; the chief of which were *Acantbus*, *Stagirus*, and *Amphipolis*. *Thucydides* the *Historian* who commanded in those Parts, march'd to the Relief of the latter, but came too late; and finding nothing was to be done there, threw himself into *Eion*, which was in the Neighbourhood, and must have been taken the next Day. But the saving this Town did not make amends for the loss of *Amphipolis*, which was of very ill Consequence to the *Atbenians*: For by it they were depriv'd not only of their Contribution, but also of great Store of Timber for their Shipping; and thereby a Passage was open'd to the Invasion of their Confederates. *Thucydides* therefore was charg'd with Neglect in not succouring this Place, and, by the Power of *Cleon's* Faction, was banish'd. When the War was over, he return'd to *Athens*: But as he never appear'd again in any public Station, and as the time and place of his Death are not clearly determin'd, it may be proper here to insert what is further to be said of him.

Thucydides banish'd.

He

He was the Son of *Olorus*, or *Orolus* a *Thracian*, whose Father was a *Miltiades*, and of the same Family with the great Captain of that Name. His Education was suitable to his Birth, and so was his Fortune: For in *Thrace* he was possess'd of some Gold Mines, which gave him great Credit and Influence in all that Country. This *Brasidas* was so well aware of, that he us'd his utmost Diligence, and offer'd the most advantageous Terms to the Citizens of *Amphipolis*, in order to get Possession of it before *Thucydides* could arrive. He went young to *Thurium* upon the Coast of *Italy*, where the *Athenians* had newly planted a Colony. But we have very little Account of his Actions, either at home or abroad, before the Affair of *Amphipolis*; and that put an end to his Pretensions as a Soldier. Some have imagin'd, that he was banish'd by the *Ostracism*: But it has been shewn, that this was not the proper Punishment for those who had misbehav'd in the Service of their Country, but rather for those who had behav'd too well, and had more Merit, than was thought consistent with the Safety of a free People. Besides it was limited to ten Years; whereas it is certain, that *Thucydides* was twenty Years in Banishment. The Accounts of his return from his Exile are not so certain: But there is good reason to believe, that he was in the Number of those who were restored by the general *Act* of *Amnesty*, upon the Expulsion of

*the Thirty Tyrants.* It is suppos'd, that he was then sixty-eight Years of Age, and that at that time he began to write his History, tho' he had before been collecting the Materials for it, ever since the breaking out of the War. The first Part of the Transactions which he relates, he was an Eye-witness of; and as to the others, which happen'd after his leaving the Service, he spared no Pains or Expence to procure the best and truest Informations. Some have imagin'd, that, according to his original Design, he carry'd his History to the end of the War; and they have therefore fix'd the Conclusion of it to the twenty-first Year, looking upon the Transactions of the six succeeding Years, rather as the Consequences of the War, than as being truly a part of it. But there does not appear to be sufficient Grounds for this Opinion: For the same Animosities and Hostilities were continu'd between *Athens* and *Sparta* the last six Years as before; and nothing but the humbling the one or the other of these two rival States, which were contending for the Sovereignty of *Greece*, could decide their Quarrel. At length the Case happen'd accordingly in the taking of *Athens*; and this was the only Period of Time, which could properly be said to determine the War. From hence we may conclude, that *Thucydides* left his History imperfect; and this was owing to his entering upon it so late. And yet if his Age be rightly computed, he lived to be full

Eighty

Eighty Years old; so that he had twelve Years of Life left to compleat it. But his great Accuracy and Exactness, both in his Matter and Stile, made it a Work of more time than he had to spare. And therefore the reason why the eighth Book of his History, according to the present Division of it, (for it, consisted anciently of Thirteen) does not appear to be so thoroughly finish'd as the rest, was, because he did not live to revise it, so as to put the last hand to it. At least this is a more natural way of accounting for this last Book, than by ascribing it to his Daughter, or to *Xenophon*, or *Theopompus*. I have nothing to add here concerning the Merit of his History, having already given a general Character of it in my Preface.

*Brasidas* finding the Season too far advanc'd, to push his Conquests in these Parts, spent the rest of the Winter in fortifying the Places he had taken, and in Preparations for the taking of others. He was the chief Man who put new Life into the Affairs of the *Lacedaemonians*, which before this Expedition were in such a declining Posture, that they were afraid their *Helots* would take Advantage from the Losses they had sustain'd abroad, to make some Innovations at home: To prevent which they made use of a barbarous Stratagem. Proclamation was made, that as many of them as could give a good Account of their Services done to the

*Two thousand of  
the Helots  
murder'd.*

State during the War, should be made free : Upon which two thousand of the most forward and active, and consequently the most likely to rebel, put in their Pretensions ; and went with Crowns on their Heads in Procession about the Temples, in order to receive their Freedom ; but were soon after made away, tho' after what manner is not recorded. And the State took this Opportunity of sending seven hundred more of them with *Brasidas*.

*The Fight  
at Delium.*

Whilst these things were transacting in *Thrace*, the *Athenians* went with their whole Strength both of Citizens and Strangers into *Boeotia*, being invited thither by a Party of the *Boeotians* themselves, who were endeavouring to change their Government into a *Democracy* after the *Athenian* Model. The *Athenians* fortify'd *Delium* in the Territory of *Tanagra* ; which being a thing contrary to the Custom of *Greece*, because that Place was sacred to *Apollo*, the Confederates of the *Boeotians* resented it, and gave them Battle. Whilst both Sides were engag'd with great Obstinacy, *Pacondas* the *Theban* General secretly detach'd a Party of Horse round the Hills, which falling unexpectedly upon the Enemies Rear, put the whole *Athenian* Army to flight, about a thousand of them being kill'd, with *Hippocrates* their General. *Delium* being still garrison'd, the *Boeotians* sat down before it ; and after several fruitless Attempts to recover it, they devis'd an Engine made of a great Yard of a Ship, bor'd through,



through, and plated over with Iron at one end; to which was fix'd a Pot fill'd with Sulphur, and other combustible Matter. This being apply'd to a Part of the Wall, which was cover'd with dry Vines, the Besiegers blew with a huge Pair of Bellows through the Bore of the Yard, and made such a Fire, that it forc'd the Defendants from the Walls, and made a Breach, by which the Enemy enter'd the Town, wherein some were kill'd, and two hundred taken Prisoners.

The extraordinary Success of the *Athenians* <sup>Olymp</sup> being in some measure balanc'd by the Defeats <sup>89. 2.</sup> at *Delium*, and other Places in the last Campaign, inclin'd both Parties to an Accommodation, at least 'till such time as they could recruit: And accordingly they made a Truce <sup>A Truce</sup> for a Year, in order to manage a Treaty for a <sup>for a Year.</sup> longer Term. But there being a Contest about two Towns, *Scione* and *Menda*, which revolted to *Brasidas* after the Truce, the *Athenians* neglecting the War in all other Parts, apply'd themselves wholly to the reducing of these Places; the latter of which they took, and block'd up *Scione*. At which time *Brasidas* being with *Perdiccas*, who made use of him to chastise his Neighbours, deserted him to march to the Relief of these Towns; which so disgust-ed *Perdiccas*, that he immediately renew'd his League with *Athens*.

The

Olymp.  
89. 3.

The Truce being expir'd, *Cleon*. sail'd with the *Athenian* Fleet to *Thrace*; where he took *Torone*, and sent seven hundred Prisoners to *Athens*. From thence he appear'd before *Amphipolis*; which was so well secur'd by *Brasidas*, that he was forc'd to decamp. But as he was ordering his Retreat, the *Lacedaemonians* fall'd out and cut him off, with six hundred of his Men, with the Loss of only seven of their own, but among them *Brasidas* himself; who liv'd no longer, than 'till he had News of the Victory.

*Cleon and  
Brasidas  
kill'd.*

The *Athenians* having receiv'd so many mortifying Blows one upon the Neck of another, began to think of Peace in good earnest: To which the Death of these two Generals did not a little contribute. For they had hitherto both oppos'd it, tho' they acted upon quite different Motives, and were Men of very different Principles.

*Their Cha-  
racters.*

*Brasidas* had Courage and Conduct, Moderation and Integrity; and it was he alone, who at this time kept up the sinking Reputation of his Country. He was the only *Spartan* since *Pausanias*, who appear'd with any establish'd Character among her Confederates; to whom he behav'd so well, that they were again brought under her Dependence. And several Cities came in to him, as their common Deliverer from the Tyranny of *Athens*. The Inhabitants of *Amphipolis*, besides their joining with the other Allies

in

in solemnizing his Funeral in a public manner, instituted Anniversary Games and Sacrifices to his Memory as an Hero, and so far consider'd him as their Founder, that they destroy'd all the Monuments which had been preserv'd as Marks of their being an *Athenian* Colony. His Opposition to the Peace was not so much the Effect of his Obstinacy, as of a true *Spartan* Zeal for the Honour of his Country, which he was sensible had been treated by the *Athenians* with too much Insolence and Contempt. He had now a fair Prospect of bringing them to Reason, as he was gaining ground upon them, and every Day making fresh Conquests: And however he might be transported with the Glory of performing great Actions, yet the main End of his Ambition seems to have been the bringing the War to an happy Conclusion. I must not here omit the generous Answer his Mother made to the Persons who brought her the News of his Death. Upon her asking them, whether he died honourably, they naturally fell into Eulogiums of his great Exploits, and his personal Bravery, and prefer'd him to all the Generals of his Time; *Yes*, said she, *My Son was a valiant Man; but Sparta has still many Citizens braver than he.*

*Cleon* was another sort of Man. He was rash, arrogant and obstinate, contentious, envious and malicious, covetous and corrupt. And yet with all these bad Qualities, he had some little Arts  
of

of Popularity, which rais'd and supported him. He made it his Business to care for the old Men; and as much as he lov'd Money, he often reliev'd the Poor. He had a ready Wit, with a way of Drollery that took with many; tho' with the Generality it pass'd for Banter and Buffoonry. He had one very refined way of recommending himself, which was, upon his coming into Power, to discard all his old Friends, for fear it should be thought he would be bias'd by them. At the same time he pick'd up a vile Set of Sycophants in their room, and made a servile Court to the lowest Dregs of the People. And yet even they had so bad an Opinion of him, that they often declar'd against him for *Nicias* his profess'd Enemy, who, tho' he took part with the Nobility, still preserv'd an Interest in the Commons, and was more generally respected. That which *Cleon* chiefly depended on, was his Eloquence: But it was of a boisterous kind, verbose and petulant, and consisted more in the Vehemence of his Style and Utterance, and the Frantickness of his Action and Gesture, than in the Strength of his Reasoning. By this furious manner of haranguing, he introduc'd among the Orators and Statesmen a Licentiousness and Indecency, which were not known before; and which gave rise to the many riotous and disorderly Proceedings, which were afterwards in the Assemblies, when almost every thing was carried by Noise and Tumult.

Tumult. In the military part of his Service, he was as unaccountable as in the rest of his Conduct. He was not naturally form'd for War, and only made use of it as a Cloke for his ill Practices, and because he could not carry on his other Views without it. His taking *Sphacteria* was certainly a great Action; but it was a rash and desperate one; and it has been shewn how he was undesignedly drawn into it by a Bravado of his own. However he was so blown up with the Success of that Expedition, that he fancied himself a General; and the People were brought to have the same Opinion of him. But the Event soon undeceiv'd them, and convinc'd them, that he knew better how to lead them in the Assembly, than in the Field. In reality he was not a Man to be trusted in either: For in the one, he was more of a Blusterer, than of a Soldier, and in the other, he had more of an Incendiary, than of a Patriot.

The *Lacedemonians* were no less inclin'd to Peace than the *Atbenians*, and were glad to treat at this time, while they could do it with Honour. Besides they had nothing more at heart, than the Imprisonment of their Men taken at *Pylus*, they being the Chief of their City: And among other Considerations, it was not the least, that the Truce which they had made with *Argos* for thirty Years, was just upon expiring. This was a strong and flourishing City; and tho' it was not of itself a Match for  
*Sparta*,

*Sparta*, yet they knew it was far from being contemptible; and that it held too good a Correspondence with its Neighbours, not to make itself capable of giving them a great deal of Uneasiness. The Matter having been canvass'd, and debated most part of the Winter, the *Lacedæmonians*, to bring the Treaty to a Conclusion, gave out, that they were resolv'd, as soon as the Season would permit, to fortify in *Attica*. Upon which the *Athenians* grew more moderate in their Demands; and a Peace was concluded in the tenth Year of the War between the two States and their Confederates, for fifty Years: The chief Articles being, *That the Garrisons should be evacuated, and the Towns and Prisoners restor'd on both Sides.* This was call'd the *Nician Peace*, because *Nicias*, who was just the Reverse of his Rival *Cleon*, was the chief Instrument in it. Besides the tender Concern he always express'd for his Country, he had more particular Ends in it, in securing his Reputation. For he had been upon many Expeditions, and had generally succeeded in them. But yet he was sensible, how much he ow'd to his Good-fortune, and his cautious Management; and he did not care to risk what he had already got, for the Hopes of more.

*Æschylus*, About the Beginning of this War, or some few Years before it, died *Æschylus* an *Athenian*, from whom we may date the Original of *Tragedy*. For the earlier Essays towards it were no more than a continu'd Song of the *Chorus*:

And

And the Improvement it receiv'd from *Thespis* in *Salon's* Time, was only the Addition of one Person, whose Business it was to relieve the *Chorus* with the Recital of some illustrious Adventure. *Æschylus* chang'd the *Cart* into a *Theatre*; and divided the *Action* between several *Persons*, whom he dress'd in Habits suitable to the Characters they were to sustain. His Style is sublime and pompous, but withal harsh and obscure: The main End of all his Pieces, is *Terror*; and tho' he has not work'd it up with that *Conduct* and *Decorum*, which were more artfully observ'd by his Successors, yet he deserves particular Mention, as the first who introduc'd on the Stage any thing like a *Regular Variety*.



## C H A P. VI.

*From the Peace concluded between the Athenians and Lacedæmonians for fifty Years, to the End of the Peloponnesian War.*

*Containing the Space of 17 Years.*

THERE was one Clause in the late Treaty, A. M.  
whereby it was provided, *That the Athenians and Lacedæmonians might alter, or add to it,* 3584.  
*as they saw occasion:* Which look'd so Arbitrary Olymp. 89. 4.  
and Designing, that the *Bœotians*, and several  
of

of the *Peloponnesian* Allies would not sign it  
*A League* Whereupon *Nicias*, to unite *Athens* and *Sparta*  
*offensive* by a closer Tie, and strike a Terror into those  
*and defen-* who stood out, prevail'd with the two States,  
*sive be-* besides the Peace, to enter into a League offen-  
*twixt* *Athens* and *Sparta*. sive and defensive, for the same Term of fifty  
 Years: Which however lasted but between seven  
 and eight of them; and during that time the  
 War was not intirely interrupted, because the  
 Treaty was never fairly put in Execution.

This stuck chiefly upon the *Lacedaemonians*, to  
 whom it falling by Lot to make the first Re-  
 stitution, they immediately began with that of  
 Persons, and in Return, receiv'd their Prisoners  
 taken at *Pylus*: And for Places they endea-  
 vour'd it; but the Truth is, they had promis'd  
 more than they were able to perform. They had  
 won more Towns than the *Athenians*; but then  
 they were not such absolute Masters of them.  
 For some they had restor'd to such of their  
 Allies, from whom the *Athenians* had taken  
 them; some, and those the greatest Part, they  
 had set at liberty upon opening their Gates to  
 them, as their Friends and Deliverers: and tho'  
 they found means of making Satisfaction for  
 these, by permitting the *Athenians* to retain  
 others, which they had taken during the War;  
 yet there were others, which they had taken  
 into their Protection, and which having exas-  
 perated the *Athenians* by revolting, would not  
 endure to hear of being abandon'd to their old  
 Masters.



Masters. Of this latter sort was *Amphipolis*, which would not be assign'd over, tho' the *Lacedæmonians* had drawn out their Garrison, and us'd all the Methods in order to it, but downright Force; and this they had promis'd to employ in case of a positive Refusal; and, by joining with the *Athenians*, to oblige all the Confederates in general to accept of the Peace.

But this cold Performance of Articles made the *Athenians* suspect the Sincerity of their Intentions, and keep what they had in their Hands: And tho' they maintain'd a sort of Correspondence, they were so far from proceeding with Vigour against the discontented Confederates, that they gave them an Opportunity of uniting against them. The first who publish'd their Grievances, were the *Corinthians*; The rest of the Confederates who turning all their Anger upon the *Lacedæmonians*, as being deserted by them, apply'd themselves to *Argos* their profess'd Enemy, insinuating, *That the League between Athens and Sparta, was only a Combination to enslave the rest of Greece.* There needed not many Arguments with the *Argives*, whose Truce being expir'd, they expected when the *Lacedæmonians* should fall upon them. Besides they were grown rich and powerful through a long course of Tranquillity, and had conceiv'd such a contemptible Notion of the *Lacedæmonians* since their Defeat at *Pylus*, and their suing for Peace, that they thought this a good Opportunity of wresting

the Sovereignty of *Peloponnesus* out of their Hands. Accordingly they deputed twelve of their Citizens with a Commission at large, to make an Alliance with any free Cities of *Greece*, but *Athens* and *Sparta*. The Gates of *Argos* being open to all the rest, the first that led the way, was *Mantineia* of *Arcadia*, which had lately thrown off its Dependence upon *Sparta*; and this City was follow'd by several others of *Peloponnesus*. The *Lacedæmonians* perceiving the *Corinthians* to be at the bottom of all these Proceedings, sent their Ambassadors to put a Stop to them. Who, after many Remonstrances, charg'd them with Perjury, in case they forsook the Alliance, or did not accept the Treaty upon the Foot it was settled, since it was agreed between 'em, *That what was concluded by a Majority, should be binding to all*. The *Corinthians* turn'd their own Arguments of Reason and Religion upon them, alledging, *That they had not perform'd the Conditions of the Treaty, in not providing better for the Restitution of the Places they had lost: That they could not desert their Confederates in Thrace, without manifest Breach of a former Oath, which they had taken to protect them; and that as for their League with Argos, they should follow Justice, and the Advice of their Friends*. Thus having dismiss'd the Ambassadors, they not only enter'd themselves into Alliance with *Argos*, but endeavour'd to bring in several other States, and practis'd more particularly

cularly with the *Thebans* and *Megareans*: But the different Forms of Government us'd in *Thebes* and *Argos*, made them incline rather to *Sparta*. Thus was most part of this Year spent in Conferences and Negotiations on all Sides, in breaking and renewing Treaties and Alliances, without concluding any thing effectually. In the mean while *Athens* and *Sparta* were in a manner left to themselves, being equally jealous of their Neighbours, and dissatisfy'd with each other. The *Athenians* finding the *Lacedæmonians* more particularly uneasy about *Pylus*, which was still in their Hands, intimated to them, that they should be repossess'd of it, provided the *Beotians* would restore *Panæstum* to them. Yet the *Beotians* refus'd to part with it, unless the *Lacedæmonians* would make a private League with them: Which they did, tho' they knew it was expressly contrary to that, which they had ratify'd with the *Athenians*; wherein it was provided, *That no Treaty should be made without the joint Consent of them both.* But the *Beotians*, notwithstanding their Agreement, demolish'd *Panæstum*, alledging for their Excuse, that as it stood upon the Confines of *Attica* and *Beotia*, it was formerly agreed, that it should not be held by either in particular, but in common to both.

The *Lacedæmonians* having broke one Ar- Olymp.  
ticle of their Treaty with the *Athenians*, to en- 90. 1.  
able them to perform another, were shamefully

disappointed of their Hopes in the *Thebans* about the Business of *Panaetum*: And all they had to save the Matter at *Athens*, was, *That the Place was not now in a Condition of harbouring any Enemies to the State.* But the *Athenians* resented it extremely, as not imagining but what was done, was at least with their Consent, if not at their Instigation. They told 'em plainly, *They had broke the three most material Articles of the Peace, in entering into a separate League with the Boeotians; in demolishing a Town they ought to have restor'd; and lastly, in not forcing their Dependents to make good the rest of the Treaty.*

*The Rise  
and Character of  
Alcibiades*

When things were thus far advanc'd towards a Rupture, they were easily aggravated both by the present *Ephori* at *Sparta*, who were more inclinable to the War, as also by several of the leading Men at *Athens*. *Nicias* indeed was employ'd as a Mediator on both Sides; but was violently oppos'd by *Alcibiades*, who had too considerable a Share in those Transactions, to be but barely mention'd. His Father was *Clinias*, who fitted out a Galley at his own Charge, and behav'd very well in the Fight at *Artemisium*. He was left young to the Care of his Uncle *Pericles*; under whom he laid the Foundation of that Eminence, to which he afterwards arriv'd. He was naturally subject to great Excesses of Passion in all kinds; but the most prevailing was his Ambition: In the Pursuit

suit of which he appear'd bold and generous, and yet somewhat turbulent and perverse. Of which we may form an Idea, from an Instance of his Childhood: For as he was playing in the Street, a Cart happen'd to come by; and being very intent upon his Sport, he bid the Driver stop: When he found he could not have his Will of the Fellow, but that he still came on, he throws himself along just in the Road, *Now*, says he, *drive on*. His way of living was not only loose and effeminate, but riotous even to Debauchery, and a Contempt of Religion, and the Laws. Not but he could put a Restraint upon himself when his Interest requir'd it; and was such a Master of Disguise, that he could conform himself to any Fashion, or Country. In *Ionia*, he was luxurious, frolick, and lazy; in *Thrace*, he was always drinking, or on Horseback; and when he was with *Persians*, he exceeded them in Pomp and Magnificence. He could comply with the severest Discipline, and the strictest Virtue; insomuch that even at *Sparta* he was admir'd, as one laborious, frugal, and reserv'd; and it is remarkable, that of all his Friends, none was more intimate with him than *Socrates*. So that it is not so much from the Inequality of his Manners, as from the different Appearances of them, that Men have form'd so many different Judgments of him. But whatever his Vices were, he was a Man of prodigious Parts, Subtilty, and Address,

dress, and had so many Ways of recommending himself, that he appear'd to a greater Advantage, than several others, who acted upon more solid and steady Principles. His Noble Birth, and the Glory of his Ancestors; his Riches, which he employ'd in Donatives, public Shews, and all sorts of Munificence; the Force of his Eloquence, wherein he was easily second to *Pericles*; the Beauty of his Person even to Loveliness, join'd with his extraordinary Courage, and Application to Military Affairs, as they procur'd him a numerous Train of Friends, and Dependents, so they prevail'd with the People in general, to indulge, and give the softest Names to his Excesses: So that what would have been criminal in others, pass'd in him only for the Starts and Sallies of Youth, and the Effects of Good-nature. In short, he had a Charm for every one he convers'd with; and those who abhor'd his *Practices*, at the same time doted on the *Man*. His first Expedition was against *Potidea*; where being wounded, and hard press'd by the Enemy, *Socrates* threw himself before him, and rescu'd him; And he afterwards did the same for *Socrates* at the Battle of *Delium*. Having got some Reputation in the Army, he was immediately surrounded with a Croud of Flatterers; and as his Vanity all along kept pace with his Ambition, he was easily persuaded, that as soon as he concern'd himself in public Affairs, he should

should not only eclipse the rest of the Generals, and Statesmen, but exceed the Authority, and Reputation of *Pericles* himself. And indeed he soon order'd it so, that he had none but *Nicias* and *Phaax* to grapple with; the former of which being the older Man, and of a more settled Interest, and Character, especially with those who were weary of the War, he thought, if he could any ways undermine him, he should have little more to do.

With this Design he had all along oppos'd the Peace: And observing now, that the *Argives* sought for Protection against the *Lacedaemonians*, he gave them a secret Assurance of a League Offensive and Defensive with *Athens*: And transacting as well in Person, as by Letters with those, who had most Authority amongst the People, he encourag'd them *to be under no manner of Apprehensions from Sparta, but to apply themselves wholly to the Athenians, who, if they would have a little Patience, would repent of the Peace, and soon put an end to it.* Accordingly he laid hold of this Juncture, and improv'd the Handle the *Lacedaemonians* had given, to exasperate the People both against them and *Nicias*. Which had so good an Effect, that every thing seem'd dispos'd for a Treaty with *Argos*: Of which the *Lacedaemonians* being very apprehensive, immediately dispatch'd their Ambassadors to *Athens*; who at first said what seem'd very satisfactory, *That they came*

*His Stratagem to oppose the Peace.*

*with full Power to concert all Matters in Difference upon equal Terms.* The Council receiv'd their Propositions, and the People were to assemble the next Day, to give them Audience. *Alcibiades* in the mean while fearing, lest this Negotiation would ruin his Designs, had a secret Conference with the Ambassadors, and persuaded them under a colour of Friendship, not to let the People know at first, what full Powers their Commission gave them; but intimate, *That they came only to treat, and make Proposals*; for that otherwise, they would grow insolent in their Demands, and extort from them such unreasonable Terms, as they could not with Honour consent to. They were so well satisfy'd of the Prudence and Sincerity of this Advice, that he drew them from *Nicias*, to rely intirely upon himself: And the next Day, when the People were assembled, and the Ambassadors introduc'd, *Alcibiades* with a very obliging Air demanded of them, *With what Powers they were come?* They made answer, *That they were not come as Plenipotentiaries.* Upon which he instantly chang'd his Voice and Countenance, and exclaiming against them as notorious Liars, bid the People *take care how they transacted any thing with Men, on whom they could have so little Dependence.* The People dismiss'd the Ambassadors in a Rage; and *Nicias* knowing nothing of the Deceit, was confounded, and in Disgrace. To redeem his



his Credit, he propos'd being sent once more to *Sparta* : But not being able to gain such Terms there, as the *Athenians* demanded, they immediately upon his Return, struck up a League <sup>A League between A-</sup> with the *Argives* for an hundred Years, including <sup>thens and</sup> the *Eleans* and *Mantineans*; which yet did not <sup>Argos.</sup> in Terms cancel that with the *Lacedæmonians*, tho' it is plain, that the whole Intent of it was levell'd against them.

Upon this new Alliance, *Alcibiades* was de-Olymp. clar'd General; and tho' his best Friends could <sup>90. 2.</sup> not commend the Method, by which he brought <sup>Alcibiades</sup> about his Designs; yet it was look'd upon as <sup>declar'd</sup> a great Reach in Politics, thus to divide, and <sup>General.</sup> shake almost all *Peloponnesus*, and to remove the War so far from the *Athenian* Frontier, that even Success would profit the Enemy but little, should they be Conquerors, whereas if they were defeated, *Sparta* itself would be hardly safe. The chief Business of this Year, was a War between the *Argives* and *Epidaurians*, begun upon a slight Pretence, that the Latter had refus'd to send a Victim to *Apollo Pythius*, whose Temple belong'd chiefly to the Care of the *Argives* : But the true Design was to secure themselves on that Side from the *Corinthians*. Accordingly they made several Incurfions into their Territories, but without any considerable Action : And *Alcibiades*, who march'd to their Assistance, having done little more than shewn himself in *Peloponnesus*, return'd.

The

Olymp.  
90. 3.

The *Lacedæmonians* had of late made very faint Efforts to recover their Authority: But finding many of their Confederates already gone off, and the rest wavering, resolv'd to remedy the Evil, before it spread too far; and drawing out their whole Force both of Citizens and Slaves, were join'd by their Allies, and encamp'd almost under the Walls of *Argos*. The *Argives* having Notice of their March, made all possible Preparations, and came out with a full Resolution to fight them. But just as they were going to engage, two of their Officers went over to *Agis* the *Spartan* King and General, and propos'd to him to have the Business made up by a Reference. He immediately closing with the Offer, in order to it, granted them a Truce for four Months, and drew off his Army, the whole Affair being in a manner transacted by these three, without any general Consent, or Knowledge on either Side. The *Peloponnesians*, tho' they durst not disobey their Orders, inveigh'd grievously against *Agis*, for letting such an Advantage slip, as they could never promise to themselves again: For they had actually hemm'd in the Enemy, and that with the best, if not the greatest Army, that ever was brought into the Field. And the *Argives* were so little apprehensive of Danger on their Side, that they were no less incens'd against their Mediators; one of whom they forc'd to the Altars to save his Life, and confiscated his Goods.

After-

Afterwards the *Athenians* came with considerable Recruits, and persuaded the *Argives* to break the Truce, telling them, *It was not good, because made without the Privy of their Confederates.* Upon that they besieg'd *Orchomenus* in *Arcadia*, and took it: At which the *Lacedæmonians* were so enrag'd, that imputing it all to *Agis*, they resolv'd to pull down his House, and fine him; but upon his Promise to do something that should sufficiently clear his Conduct, they forbore; yet would not suffer him to take the Field again, without assigning him ten of their Citizens, as a Council. An Occasion was soon offer'd to wipe off this Stain, by marching to the Relief of *Tegea*. In the Territory of *Mantineæ* he gave the *Argives* Battle: *A Battle*  
 And tho' his right Wing was press'd, the main <sup>at Mantinea, between the</sup> Battle, where he himself commanded, forc'd the <sup>Lacedæmonians and Argives.</sup> Enemy to give ground; and having by that means got an Opportunity of relieving the rest, he obtain'd a memorable Victory; which yet might have been more complete, if he would have made the most of it: But it being against the *Spartan* Discipline to continue the Pursuit long, he contented himself with being Master of the Field. However there fell eleven hundred of the Enemy, and only three hundred *Lacedæmonians*, with some few of their Confederates. *Agis* by this Battle redeem'd both his own, and his Country's Honour, so far at least, that those Miscarriages, which had pass'd for Cowardise,

ardise, or Mismanagement, were now generally ascrib'd to Fortune. Upon this, the *Lacedæmonians* took the Field again this Year; but rather than venture another Battle, chose to treat with *Argos*; which presently concluded with them, first a Peace, and then a League, thereby excluding all its Allies but *Mantineæ*, which, by reason of its Situation between them both, was oblig'd to declare for *Sparta*. That which facilitated the Treaty, was a Design of some of the *Argives* to introduce an *Oligarchy*; which, by the Assistance of the *Lacedæmonians*, they established after their Model; and the same Change was effected at *Sicyon*.

Olymp.  
90. 4.

But in a few Months after, the Commons at *Argos* took up Arms, and having gain'd some Advantage, *Alcibiades* came in to their Aid, and not only restor'd the *Democracy*, but made them renew their League with *Athens*. He persuaded them further to join their City to the Sea by long Walls, that so he might upon all Occasions relieve them; which were no sooner perfected, but the *Lacedæmonians* came with an Army, and demolish'd them.

Olymp.  
91. 1.

This Summer *Alcibiades*, to keep *Argos* firm, went thither with twenty Gallies; and apprehending about three hundred of those, who were most suspected to be in the *Spartan* Interest, dispers'd them in the neighbouring Islands.

After

After which the *Athenians* resolving, that <sup>*Affairs at*</sup> *Melos* should acknowledge their Sovereignty, as the rest of the Islands did, went with a Fleet against it; and at their Arrival sent their Deputies to expostulate. The *Melians* told them in a long Conference, *That whilst they had any Hopes left, it could not be expected, they should throw up that Liberty, which they had maintain'd so successfully for seven hundred Years: That the two disputable Points in War, were Fortune and Power; for the first of which they could depend upon the Justice of their Cause, to keep the Gods on their Side; and as for human Assistance, that as they were a Colony and Confederate of the Lacedæmonians, they had good reason to expect it of them, from a double Tye of Honour and Consanguinity: That however, if not to molest the Athenians, would answer their Purpose, they were content to stand neuter.* This they insinuated in so artful and submissive a manner; and yet with something so noble and ingenuous, that they kept up to the Character of Men, who were willing to preserve their Lives, provided it were not at the Expence of their Honour and Liberty, and who knew how to employ their Reason well, when their Sword had fail'd them. The Answer of the *Athenians* was full of Insolence and Contempt, *That they did not come to enter into a long Detail, or to debate, so as to put themselves upon an equal foot with them: That they could lose no Honour by submitting to such*

*such a Power as theirs : That they saw the Danger was at hand; and the only Question was, Whether they would be preserv'd, or not. However, to give some colour to their Proceedings, they intimated a Right of Sovereignty over them, which they deriv'd from the time of the Persian Wars. Then they ridicul'd the Vanity of their Hopes in depending upon the Lacedæmonians, telling them, That whatever Generosity their Constitution oblig'd them to express, it was generally confin'd to themselves; for that in respect of others, Honour and Justice were but other Names for Will and Interest; and that this was no where more a Maxim, than at Sparta: That supposing them never so well inclin'd to relieve them, yet it was not in their Power, whilst the Athenians were Masters at Sea: And that in short, since they would not embrace this only Opportunity of preventing their Ruin, they must expect the Consequence. After this fruitless Intercourse, the Athenians began their Works, and were interrupted by two successful Sallies of the Malians. But in the Winter, upon the Arrival of Recruits from Athens, they surrender'd at Discretion; the Men were put to the Sword, the Women and Children made Slaves, and the Place re-peopled by a Colony of five hundred Athenians. Peloponnesus was generally quiet this Year: But the Athenians, who lay in Pylos, infested Laconia, and carry'd in a great deal of Booty; which the Lacedæmonians did not care to re-*

*sent*

sent as a manifest Breach of the Peace, but only gave leave in general to any of their People, to make Reprisals in *Attica*.

Upon this little Respite from open War, the Olymp. *Athenians* turn'd their Thoughts again upon Si-<sup>91. 2.</sup> *city*, having the last Year entertain'd Ambassadors <sup>Affairs in</sup> Sicily. from *Egesta*, who demanded their Assistance against the *Selinuntians*, and *Syracusians*. They promis'd large Supplies of Money for carrying on the War; and represented, that *Athen* was particularly interested in the Quarrel, lest *Syracuse* growing absolute at home, should join with the *Peloponnesians* against Her. The *Athenians* readily embrac'd so plausible an Handle, as the aiding their Confederates: But *Alcibiades* was the Man, who inflam'd this Desire of theirs to the height, and prevail'd with them no longer to proceed secretly in their Design, and by degrees, but to set out a great Fleet, and undertake at once to make themselves Masters of the Island. To this purpose he possess'd the People with great Hopes, whilst he himself entertain'd much greater; so that the Conquest of *Sicily*, which was the utmost Bound of their Ambition, was but the Beginning of his. For he dreamt of nothing less than the Conquest of *Carthage* and *Libya*; and, by the Accession of these, fancy'd himself already Master of *Italy*, and *Peloponnesus*; and seem'd to look upon *Sicily*, as little more than a Magazine for the War. The wiser Sort made a Jest of this Expedition,

pedition, but durst not declare their Opinion freely, because they found the bulk of the People so taken up with the Thoughts of it, that you might see them, Old and Young, forming themselves into Companies, some drawing the Figure of *Sicily*, others making Charts, and describing the Seas, Harbours and Places, which this Isle shews opposite to the *African Shore*.

Accordingly they decreed a War under the Conduct of *Alcibiades*, *Nicias* and *Lamachus*, thinking to temper the Heat of the first, with the Caution and Experience of the others. But *Nicias* would have declin'd the Command, by opposing the thing in general, as no less difficult in itself, than ill-tim'd in respect of the *Lacedæmonians*, who only waited such an Opportunity, to repair their Losses and Disgrace. He also inveigh'd against *Alcibiades*, as too young and rash for such an Enterprize, and insinuated, *That his chief Aim in promoting it, was to support his own Grandeur and Luxury, at the Expence and Danger of the Public.* *Alcibiades* urg'd on the contrary, *That they had nothing to fear from the Lacedæmonians, who were brought so low, that he had lately oblig'd them to stake their All upon the Fortune of one Day at Mantinea.* *Then for active, and turbulent Spirits, such as were the Athenians, that it was always thought necessary to keep them up to their Discipline, and that they could be no where more profitably employ'd, than against such States,*  
as



*as they had reason to suspect would be their Enemies, and whom, in common Policy, they ought to begin with first. That therefore the Obstinacy of Nicias in opposing it, tended only to Sloth, and Sedition. Nicias had no way left to deter the People from this Enterprize, but by laying before them the great Preparations it would require: But to obviate all Objections of this kind, they declar'd the three Generals absolute, to regulate every thing both at home and abroad, in the manner they should judge most conducive to the Advantage of the State. By this means Nicias was forc'd to comply; tho' it was so much against his Will, that he was said to have been hurry'd away, and dragg'd, as it were, by the Neck and Shoulders into Sicily.*

There being no further room for Debate, a great Fleet was rigg'd out of above an hundred and thirty Sail, with five thousand and one hundred Soldiers, and other necessary Provisions of all kinds, and every way complete. But just as they were putting to Sea, it happen'd that most of the Images of *Mercury* throughout the whole City were defac'd and broken: Which being look'd upon as ominous to the Expedition, and suppos'd to be done by some who were ill-affected to the Government, great Rewards were propos'd to any that would discover the Authors, and after a strict Enquiry, *Alcibiades* was accus'd. The People were violently incens'd against him: But they thought

*Alcibiades accus'd of breaking the Images of Mercury.*

fit to let him proceed on his Voyage to *Sicily*; and if there appear'd any Matters against him, to call him to an Account afterwards; tho' he proffer'd to take his Trial immediately upon it, and urg'd it as a very preposterous thing, *To send a Man, who was thought obnoxious to the State, with such a Force under his Command, and not to give him an Opportunity of purging himself.* One principal Motive with them, for putting off his Prosecution for the present, was with regard to the Soldiery, who were so fond of him, that they declar'd, *They would not sail without him.*

The whole Fleet met at *Corcyra*, and from thence parted for *Sicily*; but the Generals were divided in their Opinions, as to the Place where they should make a Descent. *Lamachus* was for making directly to *Syracuse* the Capital: He urg'd, *That it was as yet unprovided, and under the greatest Consternation; that an Army was always most terrible at the first, before the Enemy had time to recollect their Spirits, and make the Danger familiar to them.* But the others Reasons taking place, it was agreed to reduce the lesser Cities first; and having detach'd ten Gallies only to take a View of the Situation and Harbour of *Syracuse*, they landed with the rest of their Forces, and surpris'd *Catana*.

*He is sent  
for home  
to take his  
Trial.*

After which *Alcibiades* was sent for home, in order to abide his Trial. For his Enemies had taken occasion from his Absence, to attack him

him more fiercely, and openly; they had drawn up, and aggravated the Information against him, and inferr'd his Guilt, as to the Business of the *Mercuries*, from his riotous way of Living, and his having profan'd the *Mysteries* of *Ceres* and *Proserpine* at a drunken Meeting, in which piece of Mockery he acted the Chief Priest. The Charge fell very heavy upon his Friends and Acquaintance at *Athens*; and being apprehensive that he should meet with the same Treatment, he fled to *Sparta*, having first desir'd Letters of safe Conduct, and at the same time assur'd the *Spartans*, *That he would make them amends by his future Services, for all the Mischief he had done them, whilst he was their Enemy.* As he was making his Escape, one, who knew him, ask'd him, *If he durst not trust his native Country?* Yes, says he, *I dare trust her for all other things, but when the Matter concerns my Life, I will not trust my Mother, lest she should by mistake throw in a black Bean instead of a white one.* When afterwards he was told, that the Assembly had pronounc'd Judgment of Death against him, all he said was, *I will make them sensible, that I am yet alive.*

The *Syracusians* had by this time put themselves in a Posture of Defence; and finding, that *Nicias* did not advance towards them, they talk'd of attacking him in his Camp; and some of them ask'd in a scoffing way, *Whether he, was come into Sicily, to settle at Catana?* He

was rous'd by this Insult, and resolv'd to make the best of his way to *Syracuse*. He durst not attempt it by Land for want of Cavalry ; and he thought it equally hazardous to make a Descent by Sea upon an Enemy, who was so well prepar'd to receive him. However he chose the latter way, and succeeded in it by a Stratagem. He had gain'd a Citizen of *Catana*, to go as a Deserter to the *Syracusians*, and inform them, that the *Athenians* lay every Night in the Town without their Arms, and that early in the Morning, on a certain Day appointed, they might surprize them, seize on their Camp, with all their Arms and Baggage, burn their Fleet in the Harbour, and destroy the whole Army. The *Syracusians* gave credit to him, and march'd with all their Forces towards *Catana*: Which *Nicias* had no sooner Notice of, but he embark'd his Troops, and steering away for *Syracuse*, landed them there the next Morning, and fortify'd himself in the Out-skirts of the Town.

The *Syracusians* were so provok'd at this Trick being put upon them, that they immediately return'd to *Syracuse*, and presented themselves without the Walls in order of Battle. *Nicias* march'd out of his Trenches to meet them ; and a very sharp Action ensu'd, wherein at length the *Athenians* got the better, and forc'd the Enemy back to the City, after having kill'd two hundred and sixty of them,  
and

and their Confederates, with the loss of fifty of their own Men. They were not as yet in a Condition to attack the City; and therefore took up their Winter Quarters at *Catana* and *Naxos*.

The *Syracusians* in the mean while sent to solicit the Assistance of *Corinth* and *Sparta*; the former of which easily consented to it; and the *Spartans* were work'd up to it by *Alcibiades*, who also encourag'd them to renew the War at home, and to fortify in *Attica*.

*Nicias* at the same time was gaining ground in the Island; so that most of the Inland Towns came in to him. And having the next Year receiv'd a Supply of Horse, with other Provisions, from *Athens*, he set Sail for *Syracuse*, in order to block it up by Sea and Land. The Fate of *Athens* and *Syracuse* depended so much upon the Success of this Siege, that both Sides employ'd their utmost Care and Diligence in it; and it was carry'd on in a more regular <sup>Olymp.</sup> and skilful manner, than had been usually practis'd in these times, both with regard to the <sup>91. 3.</sup> *Syracuse*. Works without the City, for investing and attacking it, and to the Counter-works within, for defending it. *Thucydides* has given so minute a Description of the Lines of Circumvallation, the Walls, Ramparts, Towers, Ditches, Palisadoes, Staccades and Engines, that, instead of transcribing these Particulars from him, it may be sufficient to relate the general Issue of

the Siege, with the most remarkable Events, that happen'd during the course of it.

*Nicias* found it necessary in the first place, to gain *Epipolæ* an high Hill which commanded the City, and had a steep craggy Passage up to it. The *Syracusians* were so sensible of the Importance of this Post, that they had order'd a Detachment of seven hundred Men to march, upon a Signal given, to the Defence of it. But *Nicias* had landed his Men in a little remote Harbour so secretly and so suddenly, that they easily made themselves Masters of it: And the seven hundred running up from the Plains, in a confus'd manner, to dispossess them, were repuls'd with the loss of three hundred of them, and their Leader. *Nicias* built a Fort there as a Magazine; and proceeded to invest the Town on the Land side, so as to prevent any Communication with the Country. The Enemy endeavouring to defeat his Works, and render them useless, several Skirmishes ensu'd, wherein the *Athenians* had generally the better: But in one of them, *Lamachus* being press'd hard, and abandon'd by his Men, was kill'd.

*Lamachus*  
*kill'd.*

*His Character.*

He was a great Loss at this time not only to the Public, but likewise to *Nicias*, who had chose to act with him, as being made for Labour and Fatigue, and a Lover of it. He was a just Man, and naturally mild; but brave and resolute withal, and remarkably bold in an Engagement. And he was severe enough in

in supporting the Duty and Discipline of the Field; as appears by an Answer he made to one of his Captains, who being reprimanded by him for some Miscarriage that he had been guilty of, told him, *He would do so no more*; No, said Lamachus, *War will not admit of a second Fault*. His Authority was a good deal lessen'd by his extreme Poverty: He was so low and needy, that he was wont, when the Campaign was over, to bring in a Bill of Charges for his Apparel, even to his Shoes. So that his Necessities made him appear contemptible: And Nicias himself from thence took occasion to treat him rather as his Subaltern, than his Colleague, tho' he was allow'd to be the abler Officer of the two.

The *Syracusians* being still intent on the recovery of *Epipolæ*, order'd up another Detachment thither. *Nicias* was at this time sick in the Fort, and in Bed, with only his Servants about him. But when he found the Enemy were forcing his Intrenchments, he got up, and set fire to the Engines, and other Wood that lay scatter'd about the Fort: Which had so good an Effect, that it serv'd as a Signal to his own Troops to come up to his Relief, and so terrify'd and confounded those of the Enemy, that they retreated into the City.

*Nicias* had now the sole Command of the Army, and his Affairs were in a very promising Condition. Most of the Towns, which had

hitherto stood neuter, declar'd for him; and he was every where look'd upon as a wife and fortunate General. His Works at *Syracuse* were so far advanc'd, that the Inhabitants were in despair, and came to a Resolution of surrendering; and it was thought most adviseable to do it before they were intirely block'd up, and reduced to the last Extremity.

*Gylippus arrives with Succours from Sparta.*

But just as they were upon the point of capitulating, they receiv'd News of *Gylippus* coming with Succours to them from *Sparta*, which gave a very unexpected Turn to their Affairs. *Nicias*, tho' he had Notice of his Arrival, took no care to prevent it, nor gave him any Disturbance afterwards upon his landing; which was such an Oversight, that *Plutarch* says, If he had sent ever so small a Detachment to oppose his first Approach towards him, he had been Master of *Syracuse*, and put an end to the War. But he was so elated with his Success, and the hopes of the Town surrendering, that he treated *Gylippus* with Scorn and Contempt, and call'd him a *trifling Pirate*. His being so over confident and secure at this time, was the more remarkable, because it is perhaps the only Instance of his Life, wherein he was so; and it prov'd fatal to him.

*Gylippus*, when he had so easily got footing in the Island, sent to *Nicias* to acquaint him, That he would allow him but five Days time to quit it. He did not think fit to return him any  
 Answer;



Answer; and thereupon both Sides prepar'd for Action. *Gylippus* march'd up, as the *Athenians* had done, to *Epipolæ*; where he storm'd the Fort, and put all whom he found in it, to the Sword. This brought on two sharp Engagements: The first between two cross Walls, which the *Syracusians* had run up to cut through the Lines of the Besiegers; wherein *Nicias* had the better. *Gylippus* imputed it to his being so cramp'd up, that he could not make use of his Horse, or Bow-men; and therefore drawing up his Men on the outside of these Inclosures, renew'd the Battle the next Day, and was victorious.

*Nicias* had, ever since the Arrival of *Gylippus*, been upon the defensive Part; and as he daily lost ground in the Country, he retir'd towards the Sea, to keep that open to him in case of Accidents, and for bringing in Provisions. For this purpose he possess'd himself of *Plemmyrium* near the *Great Harbour*, where he built three Forts, and kept himself up, as it were, in Garrison. *Gylippus* took this Opportunity to gain over many of the Inland Cities; and at the same time arriv'd the Fleet, which was expected from *Corinth*.

*Nicias*, under these Circumstances, wrote a very melancholy Account of his Affairs to *Athens*; *That the Enemy were become so superior to him, that he was not in a Condition to force their Intrenchments; and that, instead of besieging them,*

them, he was now besieg'd himself. That the Towns revolted from him; the Slaves and Mercenaries deserted. That his Troops were employ'd chiefly in guarding the Forts, and fetching in Provisions; and that in this latter Service, many of them were cut off by the Enemy's Horse. That the Fleet was in as bad a Condition as the Army; and That, in short, without a speedy Reinforcement of Men, Ships and Money, equal to what he at first set out with, it was in vain to attempt any thing farther. Then as to his own particular, he complain'd of his being afflicted with sharp nephritick Pains, which render'd him incapable of going on with the Service, and therefore press'd to be recall'd.

The *Athenians* were so affected with this Letter, that they named *Euxymedon* and *Demosthenes* to go over with fresh Supplies, the former immediately, with ten Gallies, and the other early in the Spring, with a stronger Force. At the same time they appointed *Menander* and *Euthydemus* to act as Assistants to *Nicias*, but would not grant his Request of coming home.

The *Lacedemonians* and *Argives* spent great part of the Year in Irruptions into each others Territories; wherein the latter being assisted by thirty *Athenian* Gallies, gave occasion to a manifest Breach of the Treaty between *Athens* and *Sparta*. The same Rancour and Jealousy had continu'd betwixt the two States ever since the first Conclusion of it; and as the Matters in Difference had never been fairly adjusted, it

was

was not properly an Intermission of the War, tho' it was carry'd on more secretly, and indirectly. The *Athenians* had given the most Handles for having the War openly renew'd, which the *Lacedæmonians* did not think fit to lay hold of: But they were now so thoroughly inflam'd by *Alcibiades*, and the War in *Sicily* was so favourable a Conjunction, that they proceeded to open Hostilities.

Accordingly, in pursuance of the Resolutions taken last Year, they enter'd *Attica*, and possess'd themselves of *Declea*, within an hundred and twenty Furlongs of *Athens*. This Town was of the utmost Importance to the *Athenians*, as being the shortest and most convenient Passage, by which they receiv'd their Goods and Provisions, and great part of their Revenues. The *Spartans* fortify'd it, and held it as a Garrison; and the *Athenians* were so straiten'd and aw'd by it, that they look'd upon themselves as besieg'd; and they were oblig'd to be constantly Day and Night upon their Guard against a Surprise. However the others did not attempt the City of *Athens*: But they kept the Inhabitants so continually alarm'd, and made such frequent Incurfions, and Depredations upon them in the Country, that *Diodorus Siculus* distinguishes this Invasion of the *Spartans* from those which they had formerly made, and calls it *The Decelean War*. It reduced the *Athenians* to such Straits and Misery, that above  
twenty

twenty thousand of their Slaves went over to the Enemy, and the greatest part of them were Artificers.

Their Affairs had not a much better Aspect before *Syracuse*; where they were attack'd both by Sea and Land. The Engagement was in the *Great Harbour*; where they took three of the *Syracusan* Gallies, and sunk eleven, with the Loss of three of their own. But *Gylippus* at the same time surpris'd *Plemmyrium*, and took the three Forts; wherein the *Athenians* lost a great Sum of Mony, with three of their Ships which lay in the Dock, besides a great Quantity of naval Stores, which they could not be supply'd with, but by forcing their way through the Enemy, who rode at Anchor under the Fort.

Hereupon the *Syracusians* resolv'd to try their Fortune at Sea. *Nicias* would have declin'd fighting, 'till the Reinforcement he expected from *Athens* was arriv'd: But he was forc'd to it by *Menander* and *Eutbydemus* his Collegues, who wanted an Occasion of signalizing themselves upon their new Commission. After two Days skirmishing, it came to a general Engagement, when the *Athenians* least thought of it: So that being attack'd before they had time to draw up, they made a very faint Resistance, and retir'd behind their Line of Transport Ships. They lost seven Gallies, and great numbers of their Men were kill'd and taken Prisoners.

The

The next Day *Demosthenes* arriv'd with seventy three Sail, and five thousand Soldiers on board, who with the glittering of their Armour, the Flags and Streamers waving in the Air, from the Gallies, and variety of Musick, appear'd with all the Pomp and Terror of a victorious Navy.

*Demosthenes* came with a Resolution to bring things to a speedy Issue; but in concerting Measures with *Nicias*, he had much ado to make him concur with him. He advis'd him to undertake nothing rashly, that he might afterwards repent of. He told him, *The Enemy was tir'd out, and exhausted with the War; That their Money and Provisions fail'd them; That their Allies were upon the point of abandoning them; and That they would soon be reduc'd to a Necessity of surrendering, as they had before resolv'd to do.* *Demosthenes* reproach'd him with this protracting and deliberating way of reasoning; and having brought over the other Officers to his Opinion, he enter'd immediately upon Action. He pursu'd the former Scheme of gaining *Epipolæ*, as the only means of facilitating the Attack of the City. He forc'd the first Intrenchment, and beat back those who were climbing the Ascent, to attack him in his Rear. But as he advanc'd farther, he was oppos'd by a Body of *Bæotians*, who stood the Charge with great Bravery, and put his Troops into the utmost Confusion, The Heat of the Action, and the Darkness of the

the Night had so disorder'd and intermix'd them, that they fell upon one another; and in the end were intirely routed. Some were dash'd to pieces on the Rocks; others, who had escap'd to the Fields and Woods, were cut down the next Day by the Enemy's Horse. In the whole, the *Atbenians* lost two thousand Men in this Action.

*He proposes  
to quit the  
Island.*

This was such a Discouragement to *Demosthenes* at his first setting out, that thinking it to no purpose to harass and expose the Troops any farther, he propos'd to quit the Island. *Nicias* on the contrary was for continuing the Siege. The Truth is, he was afraid of being call'd to Account at his Return, as his Predecessors had been, when they consented to a Peace in the former Invasion of *Sicily*. Besides, he still thought himself stronger than the Enemy, and flatter'd himself with Hopes, that he had a Party in the City, who would betray it to him. But upon the News of *Gylippus* coming with Recruits from most Parts of the Island, he chang'd his Mind, and agreed with *Demosthenes* to decamp with all Expedition and Secrecy, and put to Sea. Just as they were preparing to sail, there happen'd an Eclipse of the Moon, which was look'd upon as very ominous, and was so superstitiously observ'd by the Generals, that they resolv'd to stay twenty seven Days longer, which was the Term limited by the Soothsayers.

Whilst

Whilst *Nicias* was intent upon his Sacrifices, the *Syracusians* got notice of his intended Retreat, and resolv'd to intercept him. Accordingly they advanc'd towards the *Athenians* both with their Land Forces, and their Gallies; and the very Boys row'd about in Cock-boats, insulting them, and provoking them to fight. This occasion'd another Engagement in the Great Harbour; where *Eurymedon*, who had the Command of the Right Wing, had spread his Ships along the Shore, in order to surround the Enemy: But before he could execute his Design, the *Syracusians* had forc'd through the Center of the Fleet, and attack'd him so vigorously, that they drove him into a Gulph, where he was kill'd. Eighteen of the *Athenian* Gallies were taken in this Action, and their Crews cut to pieces.

The *Syracusians*, to complete this Victory, drew up a Line of Ships cross the Mouth of the Harbour, and linking them together with Chains and Anchors, made a sort of Boom to hem in the Enemy. By this means the Fight was renew'd; and it was maintain'd by both Sides with a greater number of Ships, and with more Ardour, and more Skill, than any that had yet happen'd. The main Effort of the *Athenians* was to force the Passage of the Harbour: But when they found that impracticable, they fell to grappling and closing with the Enemy, so as to board them, and make it a sort

sort of Land Fight. And they rather chose this close way of fighting, for fear of the Beaks of the *Syracusan* Gallies, which were better made for Execution; tho' this Advantage in their Make was not now of much use to them, because they wanted Sea-room to tack, and drive upon the Enemy, and direct their Force properly. As it was hardly possible to preserve any Line of Battle in so small a Compass, the Engagement was carry'd on with a good deal of Confusion, by little separate Squadrons, some making towards the Land and the Forts, and others towards the Sea. The Harbour was one continu'd Scene of Slaughter and Destruction, and was strew'd with Arms, and shatter'd Fragments of Gallies. At length the *Athenians*, after a long and stout Resistance, were routed, and drove against the Shore. Such of their Troops as they had not put on board, were posted there, to support them in case of need; and now they found it necessary to disembark, and join them. It was debated between the two Generals, whether they should make another Attempt to open the Passage at Sea, or leave their Fleet in the Power of the Enemy, and make their Retreat by Land. *Demosthenes* propos'd the former, as having still more Ships fit for Service than the Enemy: But the Seamen were so disabled and dejected, that they could not be prevail'd upon to go on board again; wherefore the latter Method was resolv'd



solv'd upon; and accordingly they prepar'd to march off in the dead of the Night.

*Hermocrates* the *Sicilian* General suspecting their Design, propos'd the sending of Forces to possess all the difficult Passes, and cut off their Retreat. But the Soldiers were so transported with their Success, and at the same time celebrating a Feast in honour of *Hercules*, were so taken up with drinking and other Diversions, that they could by no means be prevail'd with to pursue the Victory. Upon which he sent some to the *Athenian* Camp, to inform them as from a Party of their Friends in *Syracuse*, That the Enemy had lin'd all the Ways, in order to cut them off in their March. This Stratagem obtain'd credit with the *Athenians*, and they staid three Days longer, in which time *Gylippus* had actually prepar'd to hinder their Retreat. They left their Ships to the Enemy, and broke up in the Night with all the Horror and Confusion imaginable, and with all the melancholy Reflexions, which their present Circumstances suggested to them. They set out in two Bodies commanded by the two Generals; but were soon disturb'd in their March, the Enemy having beset all the Avenues to the City, and sent out several Detachments of Horse to annoy them in the Plains. When they saw they were to dispute their way, they presented themselves in order for a pitch'd Battle, which the others declin'd: but still as they proceeded, they were

*The Athenians decamp, and are pursu'd with great Slaughter.*

VOL. I.                      E c                      attack'd

attack'd by them afresh. Their first Design was to go to *Catana*; but when they found they were so press'd and gall'd on all sides, they chang'd their Rout, and made towards the Sea. The next Day the Rear of the Army, consisting of six thousand Men under the Command of *Demosthenes*, being separated from the rest, the *Syracusians* came up with them, and having furrounded them with their Horse, forc'd them into a narrow Pass, where, after a vigorous Resistance, *Demosthenes* surrender'd himself at Discretion, with a Condition to spare the Lives of his Men.

*Nicias* knowing nothing of this Defeat, was pursuing his March: But the next Day the Enemy fell in with him likewise, and summon'd him to surrender, as *Demosthenes*, they told him, had done. He desir'd time to inform himself of the Truth of the Fact; and being too well convinc'd of it, he offer'd to pay the Expence of the War, for Liberty to withdraw his Troops out of the Island: Which being rejected, he stood upon his Defence, and maintain'd his Ground all that Night. The next Morning he proceeded on his March to the River *Asinarus*; but being still pursu'd by the *Syracusians*, and his Troops being not able to make another stand, some were plung'd into the River; others were cut to pieces, as they were quenching their Thirst in it; and such a general Havock and Slaughter was made among them, that

that *Nicias* gave all for lost, and surrender'd upon the same Terms that his Collegue had done.

The chief Point now in Debate, was concerning the Disposal of the Prisoners. *Gylippus* press'd to have the two Generals deliver'd up to him, that he might carry them with him in triumph to *Sparta*. *Hermocrates* was also inclin'd to save their Lives, saying, *That it was better to use a Victory well, than to gain one.* But being overcome by the Importunity of the Army, he was forc'd to kill them; tho' some say, that *Nicias* and *Demo- sthenes* kill'd themselves.

*Demosthenes* was a brave and gallant Officer, who had serv'd well at *Pylus*, and in other Parts of the War at home. But it was his Misfortune to be sent too late upon this Expedition, when things were past being retriev'd, at least without a longer course of Time, than he was willing to allow for it. *Demosthenes* the Orator, in After-times, seems to have valued himself upon his being related to this General: But however superior he was to him in his Civil Capacity, he does not appear to have deriv'd from him any great Share of military Glory.

*Nicias* was rather a Good Man, than a Great one. He was gentle, compassionate and beneficent; virtuous and religious; he had also great Wisdom and Foresight, and always meant well to his Country: But he was too diffident and

timorous for the Services he was employ'd in. And yet his Fear was in some respects of use to him: For in the Assemblies, it was look'd upon as the Effect of an awful Regard and Deference that he paid to the People; and as such it recommended him exceedingly to their Favour. In the Field, it often pass'd for Caution and Experience, sometimes for Stratagem, sometimes for Moderation, and sometimes even for Piety and Devotion. It was no small Advantage to his Character, that he had to do with such as *Cleon* and *Alcibiades*, who were in the other Extreme, too hot and enterprising. His Riches also stood him in great stead: He had a vast Revenue arising from some silver Mines which he possess'd at *Laurium*; and by displaying his Bounty in Shews and Donatives, and other Acts of Munificence, he in some measure stifled the bad Opinion many had conceiv'd of him. He likewise retain'd a great Number of Sycophants and Informers, with whom he judg'd it necessary to keep measures: But when they found he was afraid of them, they took advantage of it, and made a Prey of him. *Plutarch* observes finely upon this Occasion, *That his Fear brought on him a Rent-charge for Knaves, and his Humanity for Honest Men.* He liv'd in so reserved a manner, and so much upon his guard, that he would not eat or drink, or converse with any of the Citizens. But notwithstanding all these Precautions and Disguises, he had

had Enemies who saw through them, and expos'd him to the Rallery of all the Wits and Scoffers of his Time. His Behaviour in Action no body found fault with: For when once he was enter'd, he was as quick and vigorous in executing, as he was slow and fearful in resolving. So that his great Defect was in reasoning, debating, and projecting, when he should have been doing. His Opinion was in most Cases right; but it seldom prevail'd, because he wanted Courage to support it. Hence it was, that he was so often forc'd to serve against his Judgment, as well as his Inclination; and more particularly in the War of *Sicily*. *Plutarch* commends his opposing that Expedition, and says, *It was done like an honest and wise Man*: But then he adds, *That his exclaiming against it afterwards, when the Resolution was taken, could be of no use, but to dishearten the Troops; That he should have rush'd immediately upon the Enemy, and bravely stood the Trial of his Fortune.* However, tho' he set out but indifferently, he made some amends for it in the course of the War, and was upon the point of bringing it to an happy Issue. But then again his Heart fail'd him; and the latter part of his Conduct was so poor and trifling, and he committed such gross and fatal Mistakes, that he seem'd to be under a sort of Infatuation. And yet his Miscarriages were not wholly owing to his ill Conduct; but partly to his Pain and Sickness, and to the Infection, which was

got into the Army, and partly to the Envy and Ill-will of his Fellow-Citizens; who yet were moved with Compassion for him, when they consider'd his Condition, that he was in the Height of Despair, in want of Necessaries, and worn out with Age and Infirmities; especially when they reflected how earnestly he had dissuaded them from this Undertaking. They were at last so affected with his Misfortunes, that they were ready to exclaim against Providence, for suffering one, who was so remarkably zealous for the Honour and Worship of the Gods, to be so severely dealt with. But however they might pity him on account of his private Virtues, they did not think he had done his Duty as a General; and they so far resented his surrendering at Discretion; that his Name was omitted in the public List of those Commanders, who had lost their Lives in the Service of their Country.

The whole Number of those who decamp'd from *Syracuse*, amounted to no less than forty thousand, of whom the greatest Part were kill'd, and dispers'd, and seven thousand were taken Prisoners, and condemn'd to the Quarries; where they were used with great Hardship for seventy Days, and were afterwards most of them sold as Slaves.

*The End of  
the Sicilian  
War.*

Such was the Event of the Siege of *Syracuse*; which the *Athenians* had prosecuted with so much Vigour, that they had drain'd their City of Men

Men and Money; and were therefore reproach'd with having pour'd all Athens into Sicily. But the Rashness of the Enterprize was severely punish'd in the Loss of their best Generals, Fleets and Armies; all of them being destroy'd or left at the Mercy of those whom they had so unseasonably undertaken to subdue. And the Loss was still much greater in regard to the Influence it afterwards had on their Affairs at home. This put an end to the *Sicilian War*, which is to be consider'd chiefly with reference to the *Peloponnesian*: And as it was carry'd on by most of the *Grecian Confederates*, it was properly a Continuation of it, tho' the *Athenians*, by their restless Ambition, had remov'd the Seat of it, and drew into the Quarrel new Enemies, who were of themselves almost a Match for them at Sea.

The News of this Defeat was not easily credited at *Athens*; but being at last convinc'd of the Truth, they were under the greatest Consternation, and exclaim'd against their Prophets, and Priests, who, by a religious Pretext, had sooth'd them with hopes of conquering *Sicily*, and betray'd them into all these Miseries. However they resolv'd not to sink under them, but to equip a Fleet, in order to support their Allies, who began now to think of throwing off their Yoke: And even those who had stood neuter, took this Occasion to declare against them. But the *Lacedaemonians* being more parti-

cularly elevated, resolv'd to prosecute the War with Vigour; and the Winter was spent in Preparations on both Sides.

Olymp.

92. 1.

A League  
between the  
Lacedæ-  
monians,  
and the  
Persian.

This Year, by the Management of *Alcibiades*, a League was concluded between the King of *Persia*, and the *Lacedæmonians*; and the principal Cities of *Ionia* revolted from *Athens*. It was at this time, that the thousand Talents, which the *Athenians* had set apart for Cases of Extremity, were employ'd in Shipping, and other Provisions. The *Athenians* chas'd twenty *Peloponnesian* Ships into the *Piræus*, and block'd them up; but the latter watching their Opportunity, forc'd their Passage, and took four of the *Athenians*. Upon a Descent of the *Athenians* near *Panormus* in the *Milesian* Territories, a Fight ensu'd, in which *Cbalcideus* the Spartan Com-

*Alcibiades*  
suspected  
at Sparta.

mander was kill'd. This Action render'd *Alcibiades* suspected to the *Lacedæmonians*; inso-much that they sent private Orders to *Astyo-chus* their Admiral, to dispatch him. Besides he had incens'd *Agis* the Spartan King against him, by carrying on an Affair with his Wife. But the truth is, he began to be envy'd at *Sparta*, because all Affairs of consequence, which succeeded well, were universally ascrib'd to him. Having secret Intelligence of their Designs against him, he retir'd to *Tissaphernes* the *Persian* King's Lieutenant, and by his Address soon work'd himself into great Repute with him. Thus having quitted the Interests of the *Spar-*

*Flies to*  
*Tissapher-*  
*nes.*

*tans,*



*laws*, he endeavour'd to do them all ill Offices, and render them odious to *Tissaphernes*. He advis'd him *To furnish them but sparingly with Money; and to keep the Balance so even betwixt Athens and Sparta, that he might wear them out, and consume them insensibly; and when they had wasted their Strength upon one another, they would both become an easy Prey to his King.* By which means he was hinder'd from assisting them vigorously, and from finally ruining the *Athenians*. At the same time he practis'd with the *Athenians*, whose chief Strength then lay at *Samos*, about his being recall'd; and, as a Condition of it, gave them hopes, *That he would make Tissaphernes their Friend; Provided also, that they would reform the Government, which was administer'd by ill Men, and put it into fewer Hands.* The chief Man who oppos'd his Return, was *Phrynicus* one of the Generals, who, to compass his Designs, sent word to *Astyochus*, the *Lacedæmonian* General, that *Alcibiades* was treating with *Tissaphernes*, to bring him over to the *Athenian* Interest. He offer'd further, to betray to him the whole Army and Navy of the *Athenians*; But his treasonable Practices being all detected by the good Understanding betwixt *Alcibiades* and *Astyochus*, he was laid aside, and afterwards stabb'd in the Market-place.

*Phrynicus murdered.*

. This Year began with the Revolt and Recovery of several Places towards the *Hellepont*.

*Olymp. 92. 2.*

The

The Treaty was still on foot with *Alcibiades*; and, to bring it to an Issue, the *Democracy* was abolish'd in several Cities subject to *Athens*, and soon after in *Athens* itself; way being made for it by the Murder of *Androcles*, and others who appear'd most violent for the People: So that the Government was now restrain'd to four hundred Men, in the nature of an *Oligarchy*. The manner of effecting this Change, was by ten Men, who, for fear of being insulted by the People, obtain'd leave, *That whatever they should propose, might be without danger of incurring any Penalty by the Laws*. He who appear'd chiefly in the Transaction of this Affair, was *Pisander*: But the whole Scheme of it was laid down by *Antiphon*, a Man for his Virtue and Abilities, not inferior to any of his time: For no Man thought justter than he, or express'd his Thoughts better. But finding the People jealous of his Merit, and the Force of his Eloquence, he avoided all Occasions of distinguishing himself in the Assemblies; yet did not desert the Service of his Country, tho' he did not appear in it. For his Advice was generally ask'd, and follow'd, as well in the most important Exigencies of State, as in private Suits, in the Courts of Justice. When upon the next Change of the Government he was impeach'd, and try'd for his Life, as being instrumental in it, he made the best Defence of any Man to that Day in *Athens*. The Four hundred being thus authoris'd,

Antiphon,  
his Cha-  
racter.

authoris'd, were conducted to the Senate-House <sup>The Government of the Four hundred in Athens.</sup> with Guards, and Daggers under their Coats, where the Council of Five hundred were paid their Arrears of Salary, and dismiss'd. But they soon began to exert their Power very imperiously, imprisoning, banishing, and killing such as they thought obnoxious; and in the mean while sent to treat with *Agis* about a Peace. But he was so far from hearkening to their Proposals, that he took this Occasion to advance towards *Athens*, in hopes the City would surrender under its present Consternation; 'till finding the People obstinate in their Defence, he was forc'd to retire to *Decelea*.

The Army in the mean while, which was *Alcibiades* at *Samos*, protested against these Proceedings <sup>recall'd and created</sup> in the City; and, at the Persuasion of *Thrasy-General.* *bulas*, recall'd *Alcibiades*, and created him General, with full Power to sail directly to the *Piræus*, and crush this new Tyranny. He would not give way to this rash Opinion; but went first to shew himself to *Tissaphernes*, and let him know, *That it was now in his Power to treat him as a Friend, or an Enemy*: By which means he aw'd the *Athenians* with *Tissaphernes*, and *Tissaphernes* with the *Athenians*. When afterwards the *Four hundred* sent to *Samos* to vindicate their Proceedings, the Army was for putting the Messengers to Death, and persisted in the Design upon the *Piræus*; but *Alcibiades*, by opposing it, manifestly sav'd the Common-

Commonwealth. For if they had return'd to *Athens*, all *Ionia*, and the *Helleſpont* muſt have fell into the Enemies Hands of courſe, while the *Athenians*, engag'd in Civil Wars, deſtroy'd one another within the Circuit of their own Walls. About this time ſome of the *Lacedæmonian* Confederates mutiny'd for Pay, and had kill'd *Athyochus* their Admiral, if he had not taken Sanctuary: But he was ſoon after diſcharg'd from his Command of the Fleet, and ſucceeded by *Mindarus*. The *Lacedæmonians* had for ſome time been diſſatisfy'd with *Tiſſaphernes*, who now gave them a freſh Occaſion, by detaining a great *Phœnician* Fleet, which ſhould have come to their Aſſiſtance; the Acceſſion of which to either Party would have enabled them to raviſh intirely the Dominion of the Sea from the other Side, and to have put an end to the War. Whatever his Deſigns were, it was a great piece of Service done to the *Athenians*, and is generally aſcrib'd to the Management of *Alcibiades*.

In the mean while the Innovation in *Athens* had occaſion'd ſuch Factions and Tumults, that the *Four hundred* were more intent upon providing for their Safety, than proſecuting the War: In order to which, they fortify'd that Part of the *Piræus*, which commands the Mouth of the Haven, and reſolv'd, in caſe of Extremity, rather to let in the *Lacedæmonians*, than expoſe their Perſons to the Fury of their Fellow-Citizens.

Citizens. The *Spartans* took occasion from these Disturbances, to hover about with forty two Gallies under the Conduct of *Hegesandridas*; and the *Athenians* with thirty six under *Tymocbares* were forc'd to engage them, but lost part of their Fleet, and the rest were dispers'd. To add to which, all *Eubœa*, except *Oreus*, revolted to the *Peloponnesians*. This Island had supply'd *Athens* with more Provisions than *Attica* itself; and lay so convenient for the Enemy's forcing the *Piræus*, that the *Athenians* were now under a greater Consternation, than after the Defeat in *Sicily*, having no competent number of Ships, or Men; and those few Forces which they had left, being so miserably torn in Factions, that they could expect nothing less than a final Destruction. And this is what must necessarily have ensu'd, if the *Lacedæmonians* had not, by their Remissness and their Diffidence, especially in Sea-Affairs, given occasion for spinning out the War.

The first Step the *Athenians* made to recover this Blow, was to depose the *Four hundred*, and commit the Government to five thousand; which *Thucydides* takes notice of, as the most equal Poise between the Tyranny of the Few, and the Insolence of the Multitude. *Pisander*, and all the rest of the *Oligarchy* fled to the Enemy at *Decælea*, except *Aristarchus*, who went with some of the Soldiers to *Oenoe*, and betray'd

*The Athenians worsted at Sea.*

*The Government of the Four hundred abolish'd.*

*A Fight  
at Cynos-  
Sema.*

tray'd it to the *Boatians*. In the next place they furnish'd out as good a Fleet as they were able, under the Command of *Thrasylus* and *Thrasylulus*, who fell in with *Mindarus* towards the *Hellefpont*, and defeated him at a Place call'd *Cynos-Sema*, or *Hecuba's-Tomb*. And tho' they gain'd this Victory with a proportionable Loss on their Side, yet it was of great Importance, as it serv'd to raise the dejected Spirits of the People, and put new Life into their Affairs.

*Another at  
Abydus.*

Not long after another Engagement happen'd near *Abydus*; which had lasted from Morning 'till Night, and was still dubious, when *Alcibiades* arriv'd with eighteen Sail, and soon put the Enemy to Flight, altho' *Pharnabazus* was come down to their Assistance by Land, and did what he could to cover the Ships, as they lay under the Shore. The *Athenians* not only recover'd their own Gallies, but took thirty of the Enemies, and erected a Trophy. *Alcibiades*, after this Victory, went to visit *Tissaphernes*, who was so far from receiving him as he expected, that he immediately caus'd him to be seiz'd, and sent away Prisoner to *Sardis*, telling him, *He had Orders from the King to make War upon the Athenians*: But the Truth is, he was afraid of being accus'd to his Master by the *Pelegonians*, and thought, by this Act of Injustice, to purge himself from all former Imputations. *Alcibiades*, after thirty Days, made

made his Escape to *Clanomena*, and soon after bore down upon the *Peloponnesian* Fleet, which rode at Anchor before the Port of *Cyzicus*. With twenty of his best Ships he broke through the Enemy, pursu'd those who abandon'd their Ships, and fled to Land, and made a great Slaughter of them, among whom fell *Mindarus*. The *Athenians* took all the Enemies Ships, made themselves Masters of *Cyzicus*; and there-  
Another at  
Cyzicus.  
 by not only secur'd to themselves the *Hellespont*, but drove the *Lacedaemonians* out of all the other Seas. They also intercepted Letters to the *Ephori* at *Sparta*, the Contents of which were after the *Laconick* manner; *All is lost: Mindarus is slain: The Soldiers starve; and we know not what Measures to take.*

After the last Defeat of the *Peloponnesians* at *Olympa Sea*, *Agis* made Excursions from *Decelea*, and ad-  
 vanc'd as far as the very Walls of *Athens*. Whereupon *Thraſylus* marching out with the Citizens and Strangers, drew them up with a Resolution to fight him. Which the *Spartan* perceiving, made a speedy Retreat, and had some of his Rear cut off by the Light-arm'd Men. After which *Agis* discovering a Fleet of Corn-Ships running up the *Piræus*, concluded it was in vain for him to spend so much time in blocking up the *Athenians* by Land, while their Ports were open to receive Provisions by Sea. Upon which *Clearchus* was sent out with fifteen Sail; three of which were destroy'd by some  
*Athenian*

*Athenian* Guard-Ships in the *Hellaspont*; and the rest got safe to *Byzantium*.

Olymp.  
92. 4.

*Thraſylus*, who, for his Service last Year, had a Fleet of fifty Gallies decreed him, with a proportionable number of Soldiers, sail'd to *Samos*; from whence he made to *Colophon*, and took it, made Excursions into *Lydia*, and appear'd before *Ephesus*; but was beat back with Loss by *Tiffaphernes*. In his Retreat he discover'd twenty five *Syracusan* Ships, which he chas'd, and took four with the Men in them, whom he sent to *Atbens*. Being join'd by the rest of the Fleet at *Sestos*, he transported the whole Army to *Lampsacus*, which they fortify'd, and made an Attempt upon *Abydos*. This occasion'd an hot Skirmish betwixt *Alcibiades* and *Pharnabazus*, wherein the latter was worsted. In the Winter these *Athenian* Forces made several Incursions into the Continent, and wasted the *Persian* Territory.

Olymp.  
93. 1.

*Alcibiades* open'd this Campaign with the Siege of *Chalcedon*; whose Inhabitants having sent their Corn and Cattle to the *Bithynians* their Neighbours, he drew down his Army to the Frontier of the *Bithynians*, and sent a Herald to accuse them of this Procedure. They being terrify'd at his Approach, deliver'd to him the whole Booty, and enter'd into an Alliance with him. After which he went on with his Works at *Chalcedon*, encompass'd it with a Wall from Sea to Sea, and made a Boom cross the River. *Hippocrates* the *Lacedæ-*



*Lacedæmonian* Governor of the Town, made a Sally, but was kill'd, and his Men repuls'd. *Pharnabazus* also, who advanc'd with his Forces to raise the Siege, could not approach the Town by reason of the *Athenian* Works. The *Athenians* soon after, by Force and Stratagem, took in *Selymbria*, *Byzantium*, and other Places.

The Success of these Expeditions inflam'd *Olymp.*  
*Alcibiades's* Desire of seeing his native Country <sup>93. 2.</sup>  
again, at a time when he could appear with so much Honour. Accordingly being recall'd he set sail to *Athens*, his Ships being adorn'd on every side with great numbers of Shields and other Spoils, and towing after them many Gallies taken from the Enemy, with the Ensigns and Ornaments of many others, which he had sunk and destroy'd; all of them together amounting to two hundred. As soon as he was landed, the Multitude who came out to meet him, fix'd their Eyes on him, throng'd about him, saluted him with loud Acclamations, and crown'd him with Garlands. They pronounc'd him *The bravest Man of their Country*; declaring, *That in his Sentence of Banishment, he had been barbarously circumvented, and traduc'd by Men of less Abilities and Eloquence than himself, and such as serv'd themselves of the Government: That he had always promoted the Good of the Commonwealth, not only with the public Stock, but his private Fortune: That*  
Alcibiades's Reception at Athens.

*being in continual Danger of his Life, he was forc'd to careſs his greateſt Enemies; and tho' he ſaw the Miſcarriages in the State, yet was render'd incapable by his Exile, of ſerving his deareſt Friends and Countrymen.* Theſe Reflexions reviv'd the Memory of their paſt Miſeries, which they imputed wholly to his Abſence, as, on the other hand, they aſcrib'd their preſent flourishing Condition to his immediate Conduct and Influence. Soon after in an Aſſembly of the Senate and People, he lamented his own Sufferings, and their Uſage of him, but touch'd the latter ſo gently and modeſtly, that he imputed all to his hard Fortune, and ſome evil Genius that attended him. Upon which they created him *Generaliſſimo* both at Land and Sea, as the only Man capable of reſtoring his Country to its ancient Grandeur. They gave him back his Eſtate, and order'd the *Eumolpides*, and *Holy Heralds* to abſolve him from the Curſes, which they had ſolemnly pronounc'd againſt him by Sentence of the People. Which was obey'd by all, but *Theodorus* the High-Prieſt, who excus'd himſelf, ſaying, *I never denounc'd any Execration againſt him, if he have done nothing againſt the Commonwealth.* He won ſo far upon the meaner ſort of People, that they paſſionately deſir'd he would take the Sovereignty upon him: Some of 'em made no difficulty to tell him ſo, and adviſe him

to put himself out of the Reach of Envy, and above the Fear of being call'd to account by those, who were endeavouring to overturn the State. It does not appear that he made any Attempts that way; but the chief Men in the City were so apprehensive of it, that they immediately equipp'd out an hundred Gallies with Soldiers on board them, gave him liberty to choose his own Officers, and did all they could to hasten him on Ship-board. Accordingly three Months after his Return, he set sail to *Andros*, and having defeated the Inhabitants, went from thence to *Samos*, intending to make that the Seat of the War.

In the mean while the *Lacedæmonians* were resolv'd to exert themselves more vigorously; and finding their Affairs requir'd greater Preparations, and a Commander fit to oppose to *Alcibiades*, they pitch'd upon *Lyfander*; who, *Lyfander* tho' he was related to the Family of the *Hera-*<sup>his Cha-</sup>*clides*, had been bred up under much Hardship, <sup>rafter.</sup> and paid an intire Respect to the Discipline and Manners of his Country. He was brave, and aspiring, and like his Countrymen, sacrific'd all sorts of Pleasure to his Ambition. He had an Evenness and Sedateness of Temper, which made all Conditions of Life fit easy upon him; but withal was extremely insinuating, crafty, and designing, and made his Interest the only Measure of Truth and

F f 2

Falshood.

Falseness. This deceitful Temper was observ'd to run through the whole course of his Life; upon which Occasion it was said, *That he cheated Children with foul Play, and Men with Perjury*: And it was a Maxim of his own, *That when the Lion fails, we must make use of the Fox.*

In discharge of this new Commission, he put to Sea, and leaving the Fleet at *Ephesus*, went from thence to *Cyrus* the young *Perſian* Prince at *Sardis*: To whom he exclaim'd against the Treachery of *Tiſſaphernes*, prevail'd with him to increase the Seamen's Pay, and having fix'd him intirely in the *Spartan* Interest, return'd to *Ephesus*. *Alcibiades* having occasion to go from *Samos* to *Phocæa*, left the Care of the Fleet to *Antiochus* his Vice-Admiral, with expreſs Command not to engage, tho' the Enemy should provoke him. But he was so far from observing his Orders, that with two Gallies he presently stood for *Ephesus*, and at the very Mouth of the Harbour, us'd the highest Provocations possible to draw out the Enemy. *Lyſander* at first mann'd out a few Ships to give him Chase; upon which the whole *Athenian* Fleet coming to his Relief, he also drew up his in good Order, and gain'd an intire Victory, *Antiochus* being slain, and fifteen *Athenian* Gallies taken. *Alcibiades*, upon this News, order'd a Rendezvous of the Ships

*He defeats  
the Athe-  
nians at  
Sea.*

Ships that remain'd, to be made at *Samos*, and offer'd to renew the Fight; but *Lysander* content with the Victory he had gain'd, would not stir. However this Defeat brought *Alci-*<sup>Alcibiades</sup>  
*biades* into Disgrace at *Athens*; and he, who in Disgrace.  
was just before respected even to Adoration, was now discarded upon a groundless Suspicion, that he had not done his Duty. But it was the Glory he had obtain'd by his past Services, that now ruin'd him. For his continual Success had begot in the People such an Opinion of him, that they thought it impossible for him to fail in any thing he undertook; and from thence his Enemies took occasion to question his Integrity, and to impute to him both his own, and others Miscarriages. He being retir'd to a Fort he had built in the *Chersonese*, ten others were appointed in his room to manage the War: *Conon*, one of them, finding the Fleet at *Samos* in a very ill Condition, made it up seventy Sail, and putting to Sea, made several Descents, and harass'd the Enemies Country.

*Callicratidas* being sent to succeed *Lysander*, Olymp.  
whose Year was expir'd, *I deliver up the Fleet*<sup>93. 3.</sup>  
*to you*, says the latter, *which by my Victory*  
*rides Sovereign of the Seas. I'll allow it you*,  
says *Callicratidas*, *if you will coast along from*  
*Ephesus to the left of Samos, where the Athenian*  
*Fleet lies, and resign it at Miletus.* *Lysander's*

F f 3

Answer

Answer was, *That he would not meddle whilst another commanded.* The first Attempt of the new Admiral was against *Metbymna* in *Lesbos*, which he took by Storm. He then threaten'd

\* *Μοιχῶν* *Conon*, *That he would make him leave* \* *whoring*  
*τα.*  
*The Athe-* *the Sea*, and accordingly seeing him stand out  
*nians de-* to Sea, he pursu'd him into the Port of *Mity-*  
*feated a-* *lene* with an hundred and seventy Sail, took  
*gain at Sea.*

thirty of his Ships, and besieg'd him in the Town, from which he cut off all Provisions. He soon after took ten more out of twelve, which were coming to his Relief. Then hearing that the *Athenians* had fitted out their whole Strength, consisting of an hundred and fifty Sail, he left fifty of his Ships under *Eteonicus*, to carry on the Siege of *Mitylene*, and with an hundred and twenty more met the *Athenians* at *Arginusæ* over-against *Lesbos*. His Pilot advis'd him to retreat; for that the Enemy was superior in number. He told him, *That Sparta would be never the worse inhabited, tho' be were slain.* The Fight was long and

*The Fight*  
*at Argi-*  
*nusæ.*

obstinate, 'till at last *Callicratidas* charging through the Enemy, was sunk, and the rest fled. The *Peloponnesians* lost about seventy Sail, and the *Athenians* twenty five, with most of the Men in them. The *Athenian* Admirals, who had the joint Command of the Fleet, instead of being rewarded for so signal a Victory, were made a barbarous Instance of their

Fellow-

Fellow-Citizens Power, and Ingratitude. Upon a Relation of the Fight before the Senate, it was alledg'd, they had suffer'd their Men, who were shipwreck'd, to be lost, when they might have sav'd them: Upon which they were clapp'd in Irons, in order to answer it to the People. They urg'd in their Defence, *That they were pursuing the Enemy, and at the same time gave Orders about taking up the Men, to those whose Business it was, particularly to Theramenes, who was now their Accuser; but yet that their Orders could not be executed, by reason of a violent Storm, which happen'd at that time.* This seem'd so reasonable, and satisfactory, that several stood up, and offer'd to bail them. But in another Assembly the popular Incendiaries demanded Justice, and so aw'd the Judges, that *Socrates* was the only Man, who had Courage enough to declare, *He would do nothing contrary to Law,* and accordingly refus'd to act. After a long Debate, eight of the ten were condemn'd, and six of them put to Death, among whom was *Pericles* Son of the Great *Pericles*. *Six of the Athenian Admirals put to Death. Olymp. 93. 4*

The *Peloponnesian* Confederates, after their last Defeat, plac'd their chief Confidence in *Lyfander*, and sent to solicit his Return to the Command of the Fleet. The *Lacedæmonians*, to gratify their Allies, and yet observe their Laws, which forbad that Honour being

F f 4

conferr'd

conferr'd twice on the same Person, sent him, with the Power of Admiral, but with the Title only of Vice-Admiral, to *Aracus*. Having obtain'd what Supplies of Mony he could from *Cyrus*, he refitted the Navy, with which he surpris'd several Islands towards *Attica*, and sailing from thence to the *Hellepont*, besieg'd *Lampsacus*, and took it. In the mean while the *Athenian* Fleet, consisting of an hundred and eighty Sail, put in at *Sestos*, and from thence sail'd to *Egos-potamos*, where they were just opposite to the Enemy, who was still cruising about *Lampsacus*. The two Navies being in sight of one another, *Lyfander* commanded all his Men on board, giving them a strict Charge to watch the Signal. The next Morning the *Athenians* drew up in a Line directly before him, and gave the Challenge, but he would not accept it: Upon which they bore up to him again the next Day; and thus he suffer'd himself to be insulted for four Days together. Upon the fifth, he dispatch'd some light Vessels after them, to give him notice when the Enemy was landed: They accordingly hung out a Shield on the Fore-Deck, which being the appointed Signal, he took the Land-Army on board, and set Sail with all Expedition. *Conon* being the first of the *Athenians*, who descry'd the Enemy, made what haste he could to get his Men on board; but they were



were so dispers'd, that he was forc'd to make his Escape to *Cyprus* with only eight Vessels. *The Athenians lose their whole Fleet at Egospotamos.* *Lyfander* run in briskly upon the rest, and having easily made himself Master of the whole Fleet, return'd in Triumph to *Lampsacus* with three thousand Prisoners, who were all put to Death, except *Adimantus* one of the Admirals, who was thought to have betray'd the Fleet to him.

*Lyfander*, after this Success, spent some time in settling his Conquests by Land; and finding that a good Body of *Athenians* on Shore had thrown themselves into the Garrisons, he commanded them all, on pain of Death, to repair to *Athens*: Which he did with a Design to throng the City, so as to reduce it by Famine, if it did not surrender upon his opening the Siege. This was so sudden and fatal a Turn to the *Athenians*, that finding themselves at once depriv'd of all their Shipping and Provisions, block'd up by Sea and Land, and abandon'd by all their Allies but *Samos*, they could expect nothing less than what follow'd. But notwithstanding these Difficulties, they resolv'd to stand a Siege, and kept within their Walls, 'till Provisions failing, they were forc'd to send to *Agis* to make Overtures of Peace. He told them, *He had no Power to treat with them*, and referr'd them to the *Ephori* at *Sparta*; to whom they made Proposals of parting with all Places, but

but their City, the *Piræus*, and *Long Walls*. The *Ephori* immediately dismiss'd the Ambassadors, telling them, *That if they seriously desir'd a Peace, they must come with fairer Proposals*. They had before hinted to them, that they expected their *Long Walls* should be demolish'd: But *Archestratus* was committed for only moving, *That they should conclude a Peace with the Lacedæmonians upon their own Terms*.

*Theramenes* at last undertook to manage the Treaty with *Lyfander*; and after three Months Stay with him, went again to *Sparta*; where several of the Confederates oppos'd a Peace upon any Terms, insisting upon the total Extirpation of the *Athenians*. But the *Lacedæmonians* told them, *They would not destroy a City, which had so eminently rescu'd Greece in the most critical Juncture*; and consented to a Peace upon these Conditions: *That the Long Walls, and Fortifications of the Piræus should be demolish'd: That they should deliver up all their Ships, but twelve: That they should restore their Exiles: That they should make a League Offensive and Defensive with the Lacedæmonians, and serve them in all their Expeditions both by Sea and Land*. *Theramenes* being return'd with the Articles to *Athens*, was ask'd, *Why he acted so contrary to the Intention of Themistocles, and gave those Walls into the Hands of the Lacedæmonians, which he built in Defiance of them? I have my Eye*, says he,

he, upon Themistocles his Design. He rais'd these Walls for the Preservation of the City; and I for the very same Reason would have them destroy'd: For if Walls only secure a City, Sparta, which has none, is in a very ill Condition. The Athenians at another time would not have thought this a satisfactory Answer; but being reduc'd to the last Extremity, it did not admit of a long Debate, whether they should accept of the Treaty. Yet as to the Business of the Walls, <sup>Surrenders upon Terms.</sup> they wav'd the putting it in Execution as long as they could; 'till at last *Lysander* came up the *Piræus*, and demolish'd them with great Solemnity of Music, and other Demonstrations of Joy, as if he seem'd from that Day to date the Liberty of Greece. This concluded the <sup>The End of the Peloponnesian War.</sup> ninety third Olympiad, and the three thousand six hundredth Year of the World; and put a final Period to the War, after it continu'd full A. M. 3600. seven and twenty Years, with great Expence of Blood and Treasure, with a strange variety of Fortune, and a Spirit of Resolution and Bravery on both Sides, which might have been employ'd to a vast Advantage against a foreign Enemy. Victory seem'd irresolute in the whole course of the War; the Reason of which was, that the *Athenians* being always Masters at Sea, repaid themselves there, what they lost by Land. Neither could the *Peloponnesians* have ever given so successful and sudden a Turn to their

their Affairs, if they had not prevail'd with the *Persian* to open his Treasury, and supply them liberally, especially after the late Conquests of *Alcibiades*.

How far this Change affected the City of *Athens*, and what further Influence it had on the other Affairs of *Greece*, will be the Subject of the next Volume. But we must not conclude this without doing some sort of Justice to the Memory of those, who contributed so largely to the Growth of Letters and Politeness during this War; several of whom bore an honourable Part in it, and were equally industrious to defend their Country with their Sword, and to adorn it with their Pen.

*Sophocles* made such Improvements in the *Tragic* Strain, that he foil'd his Master *Æschylus* in the first Piece he presented. They had both of them a lofty *Genius*; but *Sophocles* had a greater Command of it; so that he is not so sublime in his Expression as the other, but more eloquent and more intelligible. He had also a more artful way of touching the Passions, and by an agreeable Mixture of *Terror* and *Pity*, left more pleasing Impressions on the Audience; from whence it is, that he was surnam'd the *Bee*. He is still more remarkable for his *Conduct*, which appears in his working up, and unravelling his *Plots*, and his in-

interesting the *Chorus* in the *main Action*, so as to make the Play all of a Piece. It is said he died in a Transport of Joy upon the Success of his last Piece. His Rival *Euripides* con-Euripides. sented himself with a lower Strain, and endeavour'd to be more elaborate and correct, more moral and sententious, and to instruct as well as please: So that what he wants in the Contrivance of his *Fables*, and the Grandeur of the *Buskin*, he makes up in *Nature* and *Good Sense*. It is much for the Honour of this Poet, that after the last great Defeat of the *Atbenians* before *Syracuse*, many of the Prisoners were releas'd, only for repeating some of his Verses. Comedy at the same time was advanc'd by *Pbrynicus*, *Aristarchus*, *Cratinus*, and others; but the greatest and boldest *Genius* of this kind, was *Aristophanes*: Who at the same time that Aristophanes. he diverted the *Atbenians* with his Pleasantry, aw'd them with his Satire, and attack'd them in their tenderest Part, their Superstition. It must be own'd he often mock'd too grossly, and that he was not Master of that *Fine Rallery*, which is so essential to Comedy; but yet he may be esteem'd perfect in his kind, as he writ in the time of the *Old Comedy*, which allow'd a Liberty of representing things on the Stage without any Disguise of Persons or Names. Whatever Improvements Comedy receiv'd after this Licence was restrain'd by the Laws; yet it

*The full  
Age of  
Poetry.*

it is certainly from this Period, that we are to date *The full Age of Poetry in Greece*. It is observable, that no Art made quicker, or firmer Advances than this. It had indeed for some Ages been made subservient chiefly to the Propagation of Religion, Government, and Philosophy: But Superstition and Knowledge of all kinds having by degrees gather'd Strength enough, to convey and enforce their Doctrines without the Assistance of Verse, the *Muse* by this means was divested of those severer Ornaments, and appear'd in her more natural Colours, with an Air of Wit and Gaiety, and Politeness. The *Grecian Muse* was particularly happy in being supported by a Language, that was smooth and musical, and yet full and expressive; and that variety of *Dialects*, which is generally a Corruption in other Languages, was not the least of its Beauties. This prov'd such a mighty Encouragement, that every one strove to excel; and some by varying their Numbers, and others their Subjects, succeeded so well, as to reduce Poetry to an Art, and by their Writings to fix a Standard in their several kinds to succeeding Ages.

The great *Hero* in Philosophy at this time was *Socrates*, of whom we shall have occasion to speak more particularly in the Account of his Death, which happen'd some Years later. And here we must not omit the Names of *Heredotus*,

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*dotus*, and *Thucydides*, to whom the Memory <sup>Herodo-</sup>  
of *Greece* itself is in a great measure owing: <sup>tus.</sup> *Thucy-*  
The first is consider'd as the *Father*, and <sup>dides.</sup>  
the latter as the more perfect *Master* of Hi-  
story.



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# I N D E X.

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G g

*Ægyptian*

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